Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

At this point, have you already chosen which gubernatorial candidate to vote for in the November elections?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 5

As of June 4, 2009

Phase 1: Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

Phase 2: An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

Phase 3: An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

Phase 4: Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

Phase 5: A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Dubai Show

Dubai is synonymous with glitz and excess—but can the Middle Eastern hotspot handle Paris Hilton?

LIFE & STYLE...Page 28

Fitial offers to settle Fund lawsuit

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Fitial administration has formally approached the Retirement Fund, offering an out-of-court settlement on the lawsuit filed by the board of trustees over unpaid employer contributions amounting to more than $200 million.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The Retirement Fund board of directors holds a regular meeting yesterday, discussing, among other things, over $878 million in overall investment losses from October 2008 to May 31, 2009.

The Fund's legal counsel, Viola Alepuyo, disclosed this to the trustees during yesterday's meeting.

Three government officials represented the Fitial administration in its preliminary discussion with Fund lawyers, including acting Finance Secretary Bob Schrack and lieutenant governor's legal counsel Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Alepuyo said the board will have the final say whether to accept or reject the

See FITIAL on Page 4

IN FIRST 8 MONTHS OF FY 2009:

Fund investment losses at $86.6M

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

With less than four months before the end of the fiscal year, the CNMI Retirement Fund has already posted a huge investment loss of $86.6 million covering the period from October 2008 to May 31 this year.

Fund comptroller David Demapan said yesterday that a big bulk of these losses were caused by the global financial crisis that has severely impacted

See FUND on Page 4

14 more cops join in lawsuit vs DPS

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The lawsuit against the Department of Public Safety over alleged discriminatory practices in promoting and hiring police officers appears to be getting serious, with 14 more police officers joining the case.

The newest group brings to 24 the number of police officers who have joined the lawsuit originally filed by Sgt. James C. Deleon Guerrero.

The newest batch includes Sgts. Augustine Kaneshi and Vicente H. Sablan;

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Sub sets record in dive to ocean's deepest trench

FUN FACT

- *Nereus* descends at 100 feet per minute for 7 hours to reach the bottom of Challenger Deep.

Nereus is launched from the RV *Kilo Moana* during a test cruise in 2007 off Hawaii.
MATT HEINTZ/
WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION

A new type of deep-sea robotic vehicle called *Nereus* has successfully reached the deepest part of the world's ocean, reports a team of U.S. engineers and scientists aboard the research vessel *Kilo Moana.* The dive to 10,902 meters (6.8 miles)

occurred on May 31, 2009, at the Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench in the western Pacific Ocean.

The dive makes *Nereus* the world's deepest-diving vehicle and the first vehicle to explore the Mariana Trench since 1998.

Nereus is remotely operated by pilots aboard a surface ship via a lightweight, micro-thin, fiber-optic teth-

See SUB on Page 4

A specialized manipulator arm of *Nereus* samples sediment from the deepest part of the world's ocean—the Mariana Trench.
WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION

WHOI biologist Tim Shank, right, and Patty Fryer, left, a geologist with the University of Hawaii, examine the samples retrieved from the Mariana Trench by the vehicle.
BARBARA FLETCHER,
SPAWAR SYSTEMS CENTER PACIIFIC

Local

OPA audits, investigations taking a hit from loss of auditors

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The loss of auditors at the Office of the Public Auditor is now taking a toll on the agency's investigations and audits, and the current employees are spread thinly on numerous tasks that include new ones like the monitoring of federal stimulus funding coming CNMI's way.

Besides three procurement-related decisions issued between January and May, OPA has not released audit/review reports for months.

OPA's semiannual audit tracking report will now also be released annually.

"It's true that no report has been issued to date although some audits are still ongoing," OPA audit manager Ross Zapanta told *Saipan Tribune*.

He reiterated that OPA lost a lot of analysts who started working on these audits.

"In addition, there are several agencies that lost some of their key account personnel due to resignation and retirement. Both the Retirement Fund and [Commonwealth Ports Authority] have new comptrollers while both PSS [Public School System] and CUC [Commonwealth Utilities Corp.] have not hired new ones yet," he said.

The last audit tracking report covering the January to June 2008 period was released on Dec. 31, 2008.

Zapanta said the next audit tracking report will be "as of Sept. 30, 2009."

"Because of lesser manpower and because of the inordinate amount of time that in certain cases OPA has to spent following up on responses and corrective actions on outstanding recommendations, OPA will transition from a semiannual reporting to an annual reporting," Zapanta said.

He said OPA also believes that preparing annual responses will be less cumbersome for the individuals designated by the agencies to respond to the periodic follow ups made by OPA.

The report documents government agencies' latest responses to OPA's recommendations, status of millions of dollars in yet to be collected taxpayers money resulting from overpayments to contractors and officials, among other things.

Another auditor/analyst resigned effective June 1, even though an audit intern will now be a full-time auditor at OPA.

Of the 11 vacancies OPA announced since the early part of the year, including four audit managers, three senior auditors, two audit supervisors and two audit managers, it selected two entry-level applicants with the best credentials.

"However, we are still waiting for them to inform us of the exact date to commence work pending completion of their current commitments," Zapanta said.

OPA has only about 18 employees, including Zapanta and Public Auditor Michael Pai who is currently off island.

The agency is authorized to have up to 30 fulltime employees.

Zapanta said for the past several months, some OPA auditors have been assisting in some investigations.

"And as you know, investigation reports are not released to the public but are referred to the proper law enforcement agencies. In some cases, no reports are actually issued but OPA auditors are involved in gathering investigation data, especially those related to financial matters," he said.

The audit manager said another responsibility of OPA auditors that will not show up in any report is the monitoring, and at times, participation in the financial audits of the CNMI government and its autonomous agencies.

"OPA has also committed one auditor who will be involved in the monitoring of [American Recovery and Reinvestment] funds. Although the exact role of OPA will not be fully determined until such time that all the rules and guidelines are released, we are foreseeing that one aspect that needs to be monitored is the compliance with applicable procurement regulations," Zapanta added.

Earlier, the NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees threatened to withhold its mandatory 1 percent annual contribution to OPA, citing OPA's failure to complete audits that were requested at least 15 months ago.

But OPA had said an agency's 1 percent mandatory annual contribution to OPA does not necessarily mean an audit every year or on a regular basis.

DPH mulls raising physicians' salaries

To stay competitive in its recruitment process, the Department of Public Health is considering raising the salaries of certain physicians at the Commonwealth Health Center.

According a 2008 health data report, there are a total of 29 fulltime physicians employed by DPH, including eight for family practice/internal medicine, five pediatricians, four for emergency medicine, two each for the positions of anesthesiologist, obstetrics/gynecologist and women's health nurse practitioner. There is also one each for ear/nose/throat, nephrologist, orthopedic surgeon, general surgeon, and public health medical doctor.

There have been a rash of resignations in recent months and vacant positions include one each for pathologist, psychiatrist and radiologist.

Acting Secretary Pete Untalan said DPH continues to look for a fulltime doctor for internal medicine, pediatrics, surgery, emergency room and nephrology.

Untalan emphasized the highly competitive environment in the medical sector, demanding full time attention to recruitment.

"To stay competitive, we must examine current salaries and propose revisions if we want to attract people for critical positions," he said.

Being isolated, he said, is a challenge but not having competitive salaries is a problem when recruiting.

DPH is considering raising salaries in critical areas such as surgery, anesthesiology, emergency care, and nephrology. "We are currently reviewing the salaries for pediatricians and internists to determine the minimum and maximum level we must have to at least be somewhat competitive with other healthcare systems recruiting for the same position," Untalan said.

He said there are ratios developed to determine the number of physician specialty needed to population size.

"However, we are also considered medically underserved in family medicine, pediatric, internist and OB service," he said. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

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Another Rota mayor's staff charged for poker rob

The U.S. government has filed criminal charges against another employee of the Rota Mayor's Office over an armed robbery at a poker arcade.

Angel Barcinas Manglona, 44, was indicted of conspiring with another man to rob the Rota Poker in Songsong Village.

Manglona pleaded not guilty during Wednesday's hearing.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson set the jury trial for Aug. 3, 2009.

Munson agreed to release the defendant to a third party custodian upon posting a $10,000 secured bond.

According to the indictment, on July 15, 2008 through Aug. 4, 2008, Manglona and Wilbur Vic Masga Inos agreed to rob the Rota Poker arcade.

On July 15, 2008, Manglona allegedly supplied Inos with a Colt rifle. Three days later, Manglona allegedly drove Inos to Rota Poker and waited outside to help Inos get away.

The robbery only pushed through, however, on Aug. 4, 2008. Police arrested Inos about an hour after the robbery was reported to the Rota Department of Public Safety.

Police said a masked man entered the poker establishment and pointed a rifle at the cashier and demanded money.

Police's investigation led to the recovery of a black AR-15 rifle, its magazine, and three rounds of bullets from a roof of a barracks owned by Rota Mayor Joseph Inos Sr.

Inos, a then staff at the Rota Mayor's Office, pleaded guilty last week to one count of use of a firearm in the commission of a violent crime. Munson set his sentencing for Sept. 1, 2009. ***(Ferdie dela Torre)***

Sablan backs permanent residency, path to US citizenship for long-term guest workers

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) has urged the U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife "to take swift and decisive action" to ensure no further delays in the implementation of the federalization law, and to grant U.S. permanent residency and a path to U.S. citizenship to long-term guest workers, CNMI permanent residents, and immediate relatives of U.S. and Freely Associated States citizens.

Sablan sent a June 2, 2009 statement to subcommittee chair Delegate Madeleine Bordallo (D-Guam) in relation to a May 19 oversight hearing on the implementation of Public Law 110-229.

The start of transition to federal immigration system in the CNMI is Nov. 28, 2009 after it was pushed back by 180 days, the maximum allowed by the Consolidated Natural Resources Act

Both the Coalition of United Workers NMI and the United Workers Movement NMI yesterday separately rallied behind Sablan's statement to the subcommittee.

"We ask the subcommittee not only to hear us, but also take action as soon as possible. We want federalization by Nov. 28," said Rene Reyes, president of the Coalition of United Workers NMI, which has close to 800 members, mostly foreign workers.

Ronnie Doca, board chairman of the United Workers Movement NMI, said the more federalization is delayed, the longer will the difficulties faced by foreign workers be.

Sablan

"We contributed a lot to this community and we hope they will consider this even only for humanitarian reason. We hope they will give us a stable immigration status here," said Doca, adding that the workers' group is thankful to Sablan for her untiring support to nonresidents in the CNMI.

Sablan, in her three-page letter, said the single most important reform that will result from the implementation of P.L. 110-229 is the phasing out of the CNMI guest worker program.

But she said while this will ultimately be a positive change, urgent questions remain to be answered and must be answered soon.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, during the subcommittee's May 19 hearing in Washington, D.C., said the CNMI should not give citizenship "to anybody who comes in and work for long term." But his administration said the CNMI will continue to need guest workers.

Fitial, who sued the U.S. government over the implementation of the federalization law, asked for up to another year of delay.

Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan on Wednesday told reporters that he does not support further delay in the Nov. 28 start of transition to federalization.

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Water outage in Rapagao areas on Navy Hill Road

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has scheduled an 11-hour water outage in the Rapagao area on Saturday, June 6, 2009, affecting customers residing along Navy Hill Road from 7:30am to 6: 30pm.

The CUC Water Division Maintenance crew is scheduled to work on the Maui IV Booster Station Tank reservoir to seal all holes and openings, inspect, clean, and disinfect the storage tank. This work is necessary to protect treated stored water and provide improved overall water quality for public consumption. This will enable the Water Division to comply with the stipulated order concerning drinking water operations and maintenance in correcting major sanitary deficiencies cited during storage tank inspections. Water services will be restored as soon as the work is completed.

Residents are encouraged to practice strict water conservation and to teach children and household workers to save water, especially during this period. Rainwater catchments systems/ water tanks should be cleaned and float valves installed or replaced to ensure that water does not overflow from any tanks.

For more information, contact Bruce Megarr, Deputy Director for Water & Wastewater Operations, at 235-7025 through 235-7032 Ext. 172. ***(CUC)***

US Mint launches Guam commemorative quarter

HAGATNA, Guam—U.S. Mint Director Ed Moy joined Guam Gov. Felix Camacho and first lady Joann Camacho yesterday to celebrate the release of the Guam commemorative quarter-dollar coin in a ceremony at Skinner Plaza.

The Guam commemorative quarter—released to the Federal Reserve Bank on May 26—is the third coin in the U.S. Mint's 2009 District of Columbia and U.S. Territories Quarters Program.

The coin's reverse (tails side), by U.S. Mint sculptor-engraver Jim Licaretz, depicts the outline of the island, a flying proa (a seagoing craft built by the Chamorro people), a latte stone (an architectural element used as the base of homes) and the inscriptions GUAM and *Guahan I Tanó ManChamorr*o (Guam - Land of the Chamorro). The U.S. Mint will produce approximately 90 million Guam quarters.

"Guam's quarter is a lasting tribute to the history and rich cultural heritage of the Chamorro people," Moy said.

Following the ceremony, Camacho and Moy handed out new Guam quarters to those 18 years old and younger to commemorate the event. Adults exchanged their currency for $10 rolls of Guam quarters.

On the eve of the Guam quarter launch, Moy hosted a collector's coin forum at the University of Guam's School of Business and Public Administration in Mangilao, where he discussed U.S. Mint programs with the audience. Audience members shared their ideas about what they would like to see on American coinage in the future.

The U.S. Mint is offering the Guam quarter for sale in two-roll sets (40 coins per roll) containing one roll each from the U.S. Mints at Philadelphia and Denver, and in bags of 100 and 1,000 coins. To place an order, visit the U.S. Mint Web site at www.usmint.gov or call 1-800-USA-MINT (872-6468). The two-roll sets and the bags of 100 coins are $32.95 each, and the bags of 1,000 coins are $309.95. ***(PR)***

14 MORE

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Police Officer 3 Juan Mendiola; and Police Officers 2 Marvin S. Camacho, Mary Lou Tanaka, Michael Camacho, Raymond Pangelinan, Jesse Seman, Daniel Quitugua, Catherine Pangelinan, Roque Camacho, Eric F. David, Jesus Cepeda, and Jason Tarkong.

Robert T. Torres, lawyer for Deleon Guerrero, filed yesterday with the Superior Court the additional complaints of the 14 police officers.

Torres said the 14 are joining in the formal grievance and petition for judicial review by Deleon Guerrero for non-compliance with the Personnel Service Rules and Regulations.

Torres said DPS' non-compliance with PSRR relates to promotions; competitive selections; merit and salary increases; and disparate treatment of civil service employees at DPS.

Torres asked the court to recognize the 14 officers' joinder in the petition as interested parties who are in the same situation as Deleon Guerrero.

Like the previous batch of joinders, the 14 asked the court to have a formal desk audit and corrective measures to ensure fair treatment and compliance with the PSRR for civil-service employees within DPS.

Last week, nine police officers joined in the lawsuit. Sgt. Thomas Blas Jr. was the first to join Deleon Guerrrero in the case.

In his court action, Deleon Guerrero asked the court to end DPS' alleged discriminatory practices by compelling the department to comply with the PSSR and competitive selection process.

Deleon Guerrero is currently the officer in charge of the DPS Communication and Technology Section.

In his petition for judicial review, Deleon Guerrero asked the court to direct a DPS-wide desk audit of all civil service employees to evaluate and assess their duties; responsibilities; rank; classification; salary status; and promotion eligibility.

According to Deleon Guerrero, DPS unlawfully withheld or unreasonably delayed compliance with the PSSRR as well as the Commonwealth Salary Act of 1988 and the Civil Service Act including the PSSRR, particularly in disregarding and non-compliance with promotion and salary/merit increase regulations.

Deleon Guerrero alleged that DPS' action in the hiring of three police sergeants was unlawful and that those agency actions should be set aside.

SUB

From Page 1

er that allows *Nereus* to dive deep and be highly maneuverable. *Nereus* can also be switched into a free-swimming, autonomous vehicle.

"The Mariana Trench is the deepest known part of the ocean. Reaching such extreme depths represents the pinnacle of technical challenges and the team is very pleased *Nereus* has been successful in reaching the very bottom to return imagery and samples from such a hostile world. With a robot like *Nereus* we can now explore virtually anywhere in the ocean," said Andy Bowen, the project manager and principal developer of *Nereus* at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

"Much of the ocean's depth remains unexplored. Ocean scientists now have a unique tool to gather images, data, and samples from everywhere in the oceans, rather than those parts shallower than 6500 meters (4 miles)," said Julie Morris, director of the National Science Foundation Ocean Sciences Division, the principal sponsor of the $8 million project.

The Mariana Trench forms the boundary between two tectonic plates, where the Pacific Plate is subducted beneath the small Mariana Plate. At 11,000 meters, its depth is approximately the same as the cruising altitude of a commercial airliner.

To reach the trench, *Nereus* dove nearly twice as deep as research submarines are capable of and had to withstand pressures 1,000 times that at Earth's surface—crushing forces similar to those on the surface of Venus.

Only two other vehicles have succeeded in reaching the trench: the U.S. Navy-built bathyscaphe *Trieste*, which carried Jacques Piccard and Don Walsh there in 1960, and the Japanese-built robot *Kaiko*, which made three unmanned expeditions to the trench between 1995 and 1998. Neither of these is presently available to the scientific community. *Trieste* was retired in 1966, and *Kaiko* was lost at sea in 2003.

Unique design

Nereus has a lightweight tethering system. A traditional system uses steel-reinforced cable made of copper that powers a vehicle, and optical fibers that enable information to be passed between the ship and the vehicle. But if such a cable were used to reach the Mariana Trench, it would snap under its own weight before it traveled that deep.

To solve the problem, the *Nereus* team adapted fiber-optic technology developed by the Navy's Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific to carry real-time video and other data between the *Nereus* and the surface crew. Close to the diameter of a human hair and with a breaking strength of only 8 pounds, the tether is composed of glass fiber with a very thin protective jacket of plastic.

WHOI engineers also developed a hydraulically operated, lightweight robotic manipulator arm that could operate under intense pressure.

Overall, the deep-diving vehicle weighs nearly 3 tons in air and is about 14 feet (4.25 meters) long and about 8 feet (2.3 meters) wide. It is powered by more than 4,000 lithium-ion batteries.

Reaching the bottom

The expedition left Guam aboard RV *Kilo Moana*, operated by the University of Hawaii, on May 24 to begin a two-week engineering test cruise. On May 25, the team, which includes co-principal investigators Louis Whitcomb, a professor of mechanical engineering at The Johns Hopkins University, and Dana Yoerger of WHOI who were responsible for development of the vehicle's navigation and control system, conducted a planned sequence of successively deeper dives. Testing will continue over the next few days, and the team will return to port today, June 5.

"We hope that *Nereus* will help scientists investigate some of the 'big questions' of our time—questions of vital societal importance such the relation between seafloor dynamics and global climate change," said Whitcomb.

Co-chief scientists of the expedition, Tim Shank, a WHOI biologist, and Patty Fryer, a geologist with the University of Hawaii, are on board to examine the samples retrieved by the vehicle during each dive in its ROV mode.

On its dive to the Challenger Deep, *Nereus* spent over 10 hours on the bottom, sending live video back to the ship through its fiber-optic tether and collecting geological and biological samples with its manipulator arm, and placed a marker on the seafloor signed by those onboard the surface ship.

"The samples collected by the vehicle include sediment from the subducting and overriding tectonic plates that meet at the trench and, for the first time, rocks from deep exposures of the Earth's crust close to mantle depths south of the Challenger Deep," said Fryer.

"Our true achievement is not just getting to the deepest point in our ocean, but unleashing a capability that now enables deep exploration, unencumbered by a heavy tether and surface ship, to scientifically investigate some of the most dynamically-rich geological and biological systems on Earth," said Shank.

The design and construction of *Nereus* has been documented since 2006 by the Science Channel. Their cameras were aboard the *Kilo Moana* for this historic expedition to the deepest waters on Earth, chronicling the team's tests and findings for American audiences. A one-hour documentary produced by Discovery Studios will air on Science Channel and Science Channel HD early this fall. ***(PR)***

FUND

From Page 1

the Fund's international investment portfolio and assets.

However, he expressed optimism that the market will rebound in the following months due to positive indicators in the investment trend analysis from March to May this year.

The Fund's investment value as of April 2009 stands at $298.5 million, with $7.1 million in the money market; $90.9 million in fixed income instruments; $181.9 million in common stocks; and $18.3 million in hedge funds.

Unfunded liability

On top of its investment losses, the Fund is also faced with a significant unfunded liability for members' pension, which stands at $565.6 million as of May 31, Demapan said.

"We have now an unfunded liability of $565.6 million, which means that for every dollar that the Fund owes the beneficiaries, only 36 cents are funded and 64 cents are unfunded," Demapan reported to the board yesterday.

He said the ongoing $213 million lawsuit against the CNMI government will partly solve the deficiencies but he emphasized that the Fund could only wipe out the unfunded liability if the actuarial rate of 37 percent employer contribution is maintained.

At present, the central government's employer contribution rate is at 11 percent, pursuant to a new public law.

The Fund's comptroller also disclosed that the unpaid contributions from the central government and independent agencies affect the total projected revenues of the Fund, which as of May 31 shows a 46-percent decline.

FITIAL

From Page 1

offer. If the board approves the settlement offer, she said lawyers will go ahead with further "discussions" with the administration.

The Fitial administration wants the Fund to ask the court to hold off on deciding the case, with the CNMI government and the Fund going into a mediated settlement as a means to resolve its unpaid employer contributions to the Fund.

The board went into executive session yesterday to discuss the requirements and details of the proposed settlement.

After the meeting, board chair Juan T. Guerrero said the administration's proposal was "ridiculous." He said the board is firm in its position to go ahead with the lawsuit before discussing a payment plan with the administration.

"We're not going to defer or withdraw the lawsuit. We will wait to the end and allow the court to issue a ruling," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The chairman disclosed that the "requests" under the settlement proposal are not agreeable to the trustees.

The only item on the list that the Fund may agree with is the creation of a pension obligation bond, he said. But Guerrero admitted this would take time—possibly more than five years—because it would require people's approval.

He said the proposal to withdraw the suit and go to mediation with the government is far from the plan of the trustees—at least for now.

The central government hasn't been regularly paying its employer contributions since Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio's third administration.

During the Babauta administration, the Fund signed a memorandum of understanding, with the central government agreeing to pay $500,000 in pension contributions every pay period.

However, the agreement wasn't fulfilled and in FY 2006, the Fitial administration and the Legislature enacted a law suspending its payments for 12 months.

The Fund filed the lawsuit after it was forced to dip into its investment portfolio to cover shortfalls in pension payments.

There are close to 3,000 retirees that rely on their monthly pensions.

CHC refusing services to patients?

The chairman of the House Health, Education and Welfare Committee, Rep. Ralph DLG. Torres (R-Saipan), yesterday called anew the attention of the Department of Public Health over patients' recent complaints that they were refused service at the government hospital and told to seek help elsewhere such as private clinics.

"While HEW [committee] does not discourage private medical clinics, it is unacceptable for our community hospital to refuse service to our people and to tell them to seek medical assistance that they cannot afford," Torres told Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez.

Pete Untalan, the acting health secretary since Villagomez took an indefinite leave, could not be reached for comment since Torres's letter was sent right after office hours yesterday.

Untalan earlier said DPH plans to gradually reduce the number of CHC doctors to allow private clinics to participate in the delivery of primary care for the community.

Torres said he was approached by a group of citizens and patients who also told him that patients with appointments at the Commonwealth Health Center were given the runaround and ended up not checked or examined by hospital staff.

"Of another concern is the allegation that CHC staffs one doctor for each 12-hour shift and that staff was informed that there is a possibility that it might operate without a doctor. This too is unacceptable for both the doctor and for the patients. CHC needs to do what it takes to provide proper health service and care to our people," Torres told the health secretary. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

15 questions for CRM on Marpi clearing

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The House Committee on Natural Resources posed 15 specific questions to the Coastal Resources Management involving the ongoing clearing of 60 hectares of public lands in Marpi, saying an oversight hearing will be considered if CRM's responses prove unsatisfactory to the legislative panel.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), committee chair, asked CRM director Dr. John Joyner to provide responses to all the questioned posed.

"The committee will consider an oversight hearing if the answers are unsatisfactory," Tebuteb said in an interview.

Joyner, in a brief phone interview yesterday, confirmed receiving the letter yesterday although it was dated June 1, and said that CRM will respond "quickly."

Tebuteb's letter is a follow up to the committee's May 18 meeting with CRM and other government regulatory agencies.

One of the questions, for example, asked why DEQ did not incorporate into its earthmoving permit CRM's specific instructions not to begin earthmoving in Marpi until a CRM major siting permit had been secured.

"Although the committee and members of the House of Representatives met with you and other pertinent agencies on May 18, several questions remain unanswered and need to be addressed immediately," Tebuteb told Joyner.

The Marpi land clearing raised concerns among some members of the community over the lack of public hearing prior to the actual land clearing, its negative impact on a tourist site, the lack of a major siting permit, as well as the end use plan for the cleared land which they previously thought was for a homestead area. The Department of Public Lands said there's no immediate plan to do so.

John Scott, president of Ampro which is clearing the Marpi land of unexploded World War II ordnance under contract with DPL, told *Saipan Tribune* that the size of the area was reduced from 62 hectares to only about 60 hectares to protect a megapode habitat.

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Alleged defective parking lot project prompts lawsuit

Moylan's Insurance Underwriters International Inc. has sued a construction company operator over an alleged defective parking lot project.

Moylan's Insurance sued Gary Weakley, operator of Modern Construction, for breach of contract.

Moylan's, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, asked the Superior Court to order Weakley to pay $19,297 in damages plus interest.

The complaint states that Moylan's contracted Weakley to pave the company's office parking area and drive ramp and to provide a drain for runoff.

Moylan's paid Weakley $18,097 for the paving project and $1,200 to another in reliance upon the work.

Pierce said a couple of weeks after completion of the project, rain caused sand to wash from the newly poured concrete and to accumulate at the bottom of the parking lot.

"Thereafter, upon every rain, the parking lot seemed to dissolve with sand from the project washing to the bottom," he said.

Moylan's informed Weakley of the problem and, despite promising to immediately review the project, Weakley took several months to respond, the lawyer said.

When he finally did, the defendant promised to repair the project, but never did, Pierce said.

Moylain retained the services of a civil engineer to review Weakley's work. The engineer determined that among other things, Weakley failed to properly mix the concrete prior to pouring and or permitted the concrete to cure such that the sand did not become affixed. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Guest workers meet to discuss congressional visit, other issues

Guest workers are meeting late this afternoon to discuss the upcoming U.S. congressional visit and other issues related to federalization.

The United Workers Movement-NMI is spearheading the meeting that starts at 6pm today at the Minatchom Atdao in Susupe Beach.

UWM urged all nonresident workers to attend and join the discussions.

On top of the agenda will be preparations for the upcoming visit of a U.S. congressional delegation headed by Rep. Madeleine Bordallo, chair of the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife. The panel recently held a hearing on the implementation of the federalization of immigration in the CNMI.

UMW said a recent meeting of workers with press secretary Charles Reyes on the CNMI government's stand on federalization will also be discussed.

An update report from Wendy Doromal will also be read.

The guest workers will also prepare plans to support the call of Rep. Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan not to delay the implementation of federalization.

UMW was one of the guest worker groups that recently staged a 72-hour peaceful assembly in Garapan to request Congress to grant them improved immigration status.

The workers want the Secretary of the Interior to make recommendations to the U.S. Congress to permit lawfully admitted guest workers lawfully residing in the CNMI to apply for long-term status. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

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Reyes, King tiff lands in small claims court

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Press secretary Charles Reyes Jr. said yesterday that lawyer Janet H. King asked him to buy various items and accepted various gifts from him while she was investigating his bar complaint before the CNMI Bar Association's Disciplinary Committee.

In response, King's lawyer, Robert T. Torres, told *Saipan Tribune* last night that the small claims deal with issues where one offers or provides gifts and then, after having been jilted, proceeds to make claims.

Reyes

King

"It is a classic disappointed suitor profile," Torres said.

In an e-mail to *Saipan Tribune*, Reyes disclosed that his small claims against King is for less than $500, excluding the process service and court filing fees that he could recover if he is successful in the case.

"This amount is for various items that Janet King asked me to buy for her and offered to reimburse while she was investigating my bar complaint as a member of the CNMI Bar Association's Disciplinary Committee," said Reyes. He did not disclose the respondent's name in his bar complaint.

Reyes and King appeared before Superior Court presiding judge Robert C. Naraja for the initial appearance hearing. The case was originally set before associate judge Perry B. Inos, but was transferred at the last minute to Naraja.

There were no arguments raised yesterday as Naraja only set the hearing for July 8 before associate judge David A. Wiseman.

King, a former Miss CNMI Universe, appeared with her lawyer. Reyes represented himself. Naraja reminded Reyes about complying with rules and regulations as a pro se litigant.

King was also accompanied in court by Senate President Pete Reyes, who has been involved in a probate dispute with Charles Reyes Jr., his nephew. Also seen talking with King after the hearing were Rep. Rosemond Santos and Beautify CNMI's Angelo Villagomez.

Charles Reyes told *Saipan Tribune* in the e-mail that he decided to pursue the small claims after the Disciplinary Committee removed King from investigating and deliberating on his bar complaint at his request.

This came, Reyes said, after King failed to recuse herself or give the committee and the other parties a reasonable opportunity to waive her conflict of interest with informed consent.

"This amount is only for the various items she asked me to buy for her and offered to repay and does not include the various gifts she accepted from me and encouraged me to provide her while she was investigating my bar complaint…" he said.

Reyes stated that his claims are based on straightforward contract law principles of offer, acceptance, and consideration.

He said he understands that King is disputing the claims based on the legal principles of waiver, equitable estoppel, and the doctrine of laches.

"I do not believe these arguments fit the fact pattern of our case. Attorney King is also claiming that the items she asked for were gifts, which I am disputing," he said.

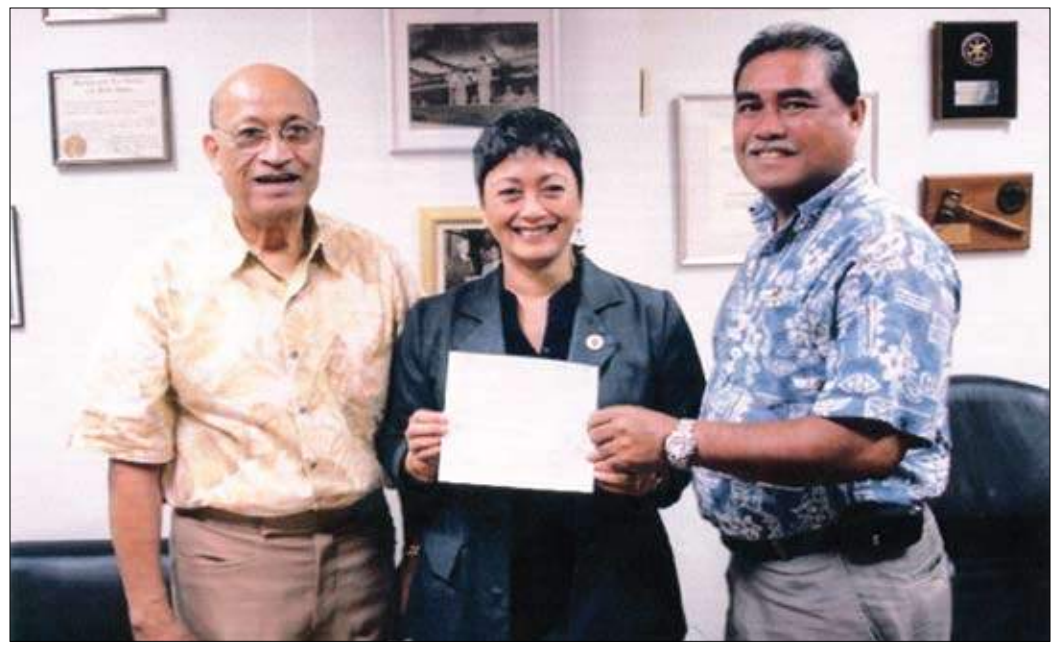
Reyes said he looks forward to the proper resolution of this case based on the facts and on the proper application of contract law principles.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Torres said someone from the outside may say that this is a case about a disappointed suitor.

"Whether or not that is true is irrelevant. What is relevant is that this matter will be tried in a court of law based on proof, testimony and evidence," Torres said.

He said matters regarding disciplinary conduct by an attorney will be dealt with in the appropriate forum and not in a court of public opinion and not within the realm of one person's opinion.

"This is not a case about vindication. It is a case about resolving the difference between where when is a gift a gift, when is a reimbursement due and the difference between changing your mind and gifts freely given," Torres said.



FHB DONATION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First Hawaiian Bank, Saipan Office donates $1,000 to Citizens for Change of Article XII, a non-profit association whose members are dedicated to help the people of the CNMI learn the effects of Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution. Shown in the photo, from left, are Dave Sablan, treasurer of the Association; Cathy Sablan Cepeda, recording secretary, and Juan Lizama, assistant vice president of First Hawaiian Bank, Saipan.

9 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has raised the red flag on nine sites on Saipan and advises the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from CK district No. 2, CK district No. 4, Garapan Beach, Garapan Fishing Dock, Hafa Adai Hotel, American Memorial Park, Smiling Cove Marina, DPW Channel Bridge and Central Repair Shop on Saipan contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria—enterococci—that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards.

These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environments may also contain these bacteria from the natural environment, which may not be directly associated with public health concerns.

Rota beaches are assigned a green flag. Enjoy our waters.

DEQ analyzes samples of marine recreational and storm drainage water from 50 locations on Saipan, 10 on Tinian, 12 on Rota and a total of 11 samples from the shore surrounding Managaha. Contact DEQ at 664-8500 for more information. ***(DEQ)***

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Ban on political billboards on Beach Road

The Department of Public Lands is notifying all political camps and candidates that they are prohibited from placing billboards on the western side of Beach Road from San Antonio to Garapan.

Public Lands Secretary John S. DelRosario Jr. issued the announcement yesterday, saying "it's fair for all camps and also for the safety of drivers and pedestrians along the western side of Beach Road.

This prohibition includes trailers and trucks with political billboards on top and are prohibited from parking along the beach side of the road," he added.

"No violations have been committed against this regulation of the DPL and we have encouraged the heads of political camps to give us their cooperation," DelRosario said. "This cooperation should ensure a smooth primary for the GOP and all camps this June and the general elections in November."

Meanwhile, there's an increasing problem with people camping and cordoning off large areas along Beach Road several days before the 4th of July Parade, he noted.

"There's no permit or procedure now in place to regulate this sort of activity," DelRosario said. "But DPL would return next year with a set of procedures and simple fees to ensure the safe and sanitary use of Beach Road before the Liberation Day parade."

"For now, we will simply secure the names of people using Beach Road for the parade in order to ensure that no one leaves trash behind after the liberation festivities," he noted. "Again we ask for everyone's cooperation so that all may share full view of the impending parade." ***(PR)***

Korean community center inauguration Saturday

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Korean Association of Saipan will officially open tomorrow night the Korean Community Center in San Antonio, which has a language school, administrative offices, and other amenities.

The inauguration ceremonies will start at 6pm Saturday with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Senate President Pete Reyes, House Speaker Arnold Palacios and Mayor Juan B. Tudela leading the list of invited guests.

Korean Association president Park Jun-Soo said that Guam-based Consul General Lee Chong-il is also expected to join the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Construction of the school building started early this year following the inauguration of the community center in December 2008.

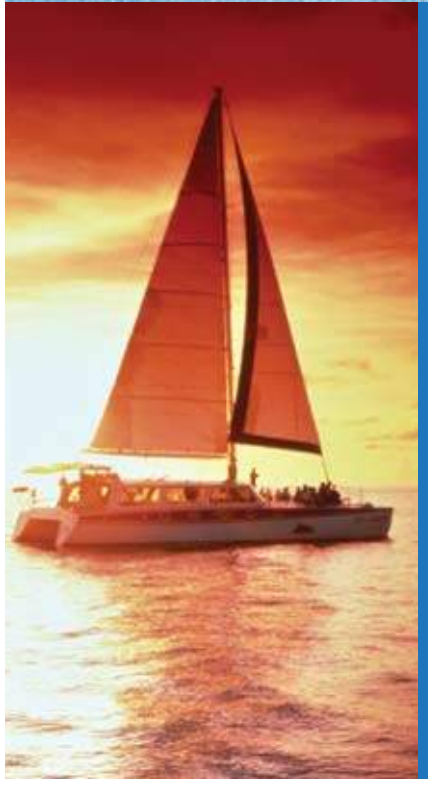
The school aims to teach Saipan-born Korean children how to speak their native language as well as to know more about their parents' culture and traditions.

The center's site is a former garment factory. Through the help of the Saipan municipal government, the area will become a permanent venue for the 3,000 Korean citizens on Saipan as their community center where they will hold important meetings and host visitors.

The language school will also be opened to non-Koreans who would like to learn how to speak the language as well as to know more about the culture.

Aside from the school, the center also has two administrative offices, an auditorium, three storage units, a basketball court, and 64 parking lots.

The school area has 13 classrooms, an office, a library, cafeteria, kitchen, three storage units and four toilets.



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Vendors wanted for Marianas Festival

Individuals or companies that create local products are encouraged to showcase their creations at the Made in the Marianas Festival on June 24.

"We are looking for vendors whose products are unique, original and made in the Marianas. Vendors keep 100 percent of their profits. We aim to introduce the community to the concept of buying locally produced foods and products, which in turn helps to build sustainable communities," said Frankie M. Eliptico, Off the Beaten Path president.

The event, which will be held for the first time on June 24, starting at 6pm, at the NMI Museum, is being organized by members of the Off the Beaten Path.

Another goal of the Festival is to heighten awareness and appreciation of the CNMI Museum and its cultural and historic importance. During the Festival, visitors are welcome to view current exhibits and displays currently featured at the NMI Museum of History and Culture.

A portion of the proceeds from the event will be donated to the Museum and the planning of OBP's next event to benefit the CNMI Autism Society.

For a small entrance fee, $10, festival-goers will enjoy a free glass of soda, wine or beer as they peruse the locally available products, unique to the Marianas. Tickets to the Made in the Marianas Festival are available at the NMI Museum of History and Culture and with OBP members. For more information, send an e-mail to obpcnmi@gmail.com or contact Robert Hunter at the NMI Museum at 664-2160/4. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

JUNE 5, 2000

Fr. Bradley collapses; dies

Catholic Priest Gary Bradley succumbed to a heart attack yesterday morning while saying Mass at Kristo Rai Parish amid the shocked parishioners. He was 53. Bishop Tomas Camacho, who rushed to the hospital and check on his Vicar General, saw how doctors at the Commonwealth Health Center worked hard to revive Fr. Bradley at the emergency room. He was pronounced dead past 7am. "He is a personal friend. I will miss him very badly because I seek his advice on major decisions for the diocese," Bishop Camacho said. At 9:30am, the Bishop held Mass in Kristo Rai where he announced Fr. Gary's death to the parishioners.

CDA to float $60M bond this month

The Commonwealth Development Authority is anticipating to finally float the $60-million municipal bond by the end of the month, a development that has the promise to hasten pending major infrastructure projects and increase business activities on the island. Executive Director Marylou S. Ada said CDA's bond underwriters in the mainland United States are already in the process of obtaining the needed rating before the bond is floated in the open market. "It is now in the hands of the bond underwriters. They have already submitted it to secure rating. When it is rated, we can go out in the market and float the bond," Ms. Ada said in an interview.

JUNE 5, 2001

Controversial Article 12: Cost construction industry $4B

The construction industry and the Commonwealth in general has lost between $3-$4 billion in investments since 1985 when the debate about foreigners owning land was first raised under Article 12. Contractor's Association Chairman Richard J. Szumiel said the $3 billion to $4 billion represents money lost from investors who were turned off when lawsuits started appearing in the mid-1980s questioning leases entered into by foreigners. The leases were interpreted by some legal authorities in the islands as some form of ownership. Szumiel noted that during the time as many as a dozen or more large hotels and other big name companies were ready to plunk down their investments in the Commonwealth.

Suspects face prostitution raps

Several individuals have been arrested for allegedly promoting prostitution in the Western Garapan area. One of the arrestees, Wu Xuetian, appeared before Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman yesterday for a bail hearing. She was nabbed over the weekend on charges of promoting and permitting prostitution. Last week, suspects Hua Zhen Chen and Qui Fian Yian, among other recent arrestees, were picked up by authorities on similar charges. Their arrest was based on an ongoing Western Garapan clean-up operation being spearheaded by the Tourism Related Crime Prevention Task Force.

JUNE 5, 2002

CPA sues Tinian Shipping

Barely bouncing back from a brief period of disrupted ferry services following an arrest order issued by the federal court less than two weeks ago, the embattled Tinian Shipping and Transportation Inc. received yet another blow, this time, through a civil lawsuit initiated by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The public corporation, through counsel S. Joshua Berger, lodged a $1.15 million suit against the troubled shipping company on grounds of nonpayment of passenger and dockage fees pursuant to a lease agreement that CPA and TSTI entered into last June 1, 1996. In a complaint filed at the Superior Court, CPA alleged that TSTI breached the lease contract when it failed to deliver $1.15 million in past passenger fees that it owed CPA as of April 30, 2002.

Pete A. lobbies for changes in minimum wage legislation

CNMI Washington Representative Pete A. Tenorio is strongly lobbying for changes in the minimum wage legislation now pending in the U.S. Congress. Prior to the U.S. Congress' Memorial Day recess, Democrats from both the House of Representatives and the Senate introduced identical bills to increase the U.S. minimum wage. The bills include language that would make this wage applicable to the CNMI. The increases would begin sixty days after the bill is signed into law, when wages in the CNMI would go to $3.55 per hour. There would be additional fifty cent per hour increases every six months after that, until the minimum wage in the CNMI is equal to that of the national minimum wage.

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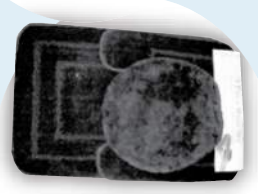

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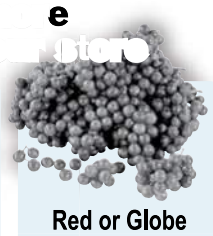

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Opinion

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Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Double standard

On paper, Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor resembles one of her would-be colleagues on the high court: Princeton undergrad, Yale Law School, an editor on the Yale Law Journal, experience as a prosecutor and years of service on the federal bench.

Yet Judge Sotomayor, President Obama's pick to replace retiring Justice David H. Souter, is not being compared by some conservatives to Princeton/Yale alum Samuel A. Alito Jr., widely acclaimed as smart and qualified when he was nominated. Instead, they are trying to peg her as "President Obama's Harriet Miers," after the nominee of President George W. Bush who took herself out of contention as conservatives savaged her reputation and raised doubts about whether she was smart enough for the job.

Why is that? After all, Judge Sotomayor boasts the very qualifications that these conservatives claimed Ms. Miers lacked. Ms. Miers was in part lambasted by conservatives—unfairly, we noted at the time—because she did not meet the now-cliched criteria of graduation from elite schools and experience as a judge. Judge Sotomayor's educational pedigree is top-notch, and she served six years on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York before spending the past 11 years on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit.

Ms. Miers, conservative critics complained, lacked a substantial paper trail, leading some to worry about whether she was more liberal than her record let on. Judge Sotomayor can't be tagged as a stealth candidate, given her two-decade track record of opinions on topics as varied as immigration, eminent domain, corporate law and the First Amendment.

Because it is difficult to dismiss her academic credentials and her professional experience, some on the right have resorted to the politics of personal destruction. Curt Levey of the Committee for Justice said in a radio interview that Judge Sotomayor was picked because "she's a woman and Hispanic, not because she was the best qualified." Former congressman Tom Tancredo sank to even greater depths when he called Judge Sotomayor a "racist" for her past affiliation with the Hispanic advocacy group, the National Council of La Raza; Mr. Tancredo called La Raza "a Latino KKK without the hoods or the nooses." Former Bush adviser Karl Rove implicitly questioned Judge Sotomayor's intelligence, saying in an interview with PBS host Charlie Rose that "I know lots of stupid people who went to Ivy League schools." No doubt, but would Mr. Rove have said the same thing in connection with Justice Alito?

There are plenty of lines of inquiry that should be explored to better discern Judge Sotomayor's qualifications and judicial philosophy. We look forward to a vigorous debate about Judge Sotomayor's more controversial and consequential cases. We would like to hear more from Judge Sotomayor on how gender and ethnicity might help—as she put it—a "wise Latina" judge come to a "better" conclusion in some cases than a white, male jurist. (The president recently said Judge Sotomayor regretted her choice of words.) Above all, we'd welcome a confirmation process that sets aside rancid stereotypes and sexist assumptions in order to explore the record and philosophy of a woman whose work could affect the country for some time to come.

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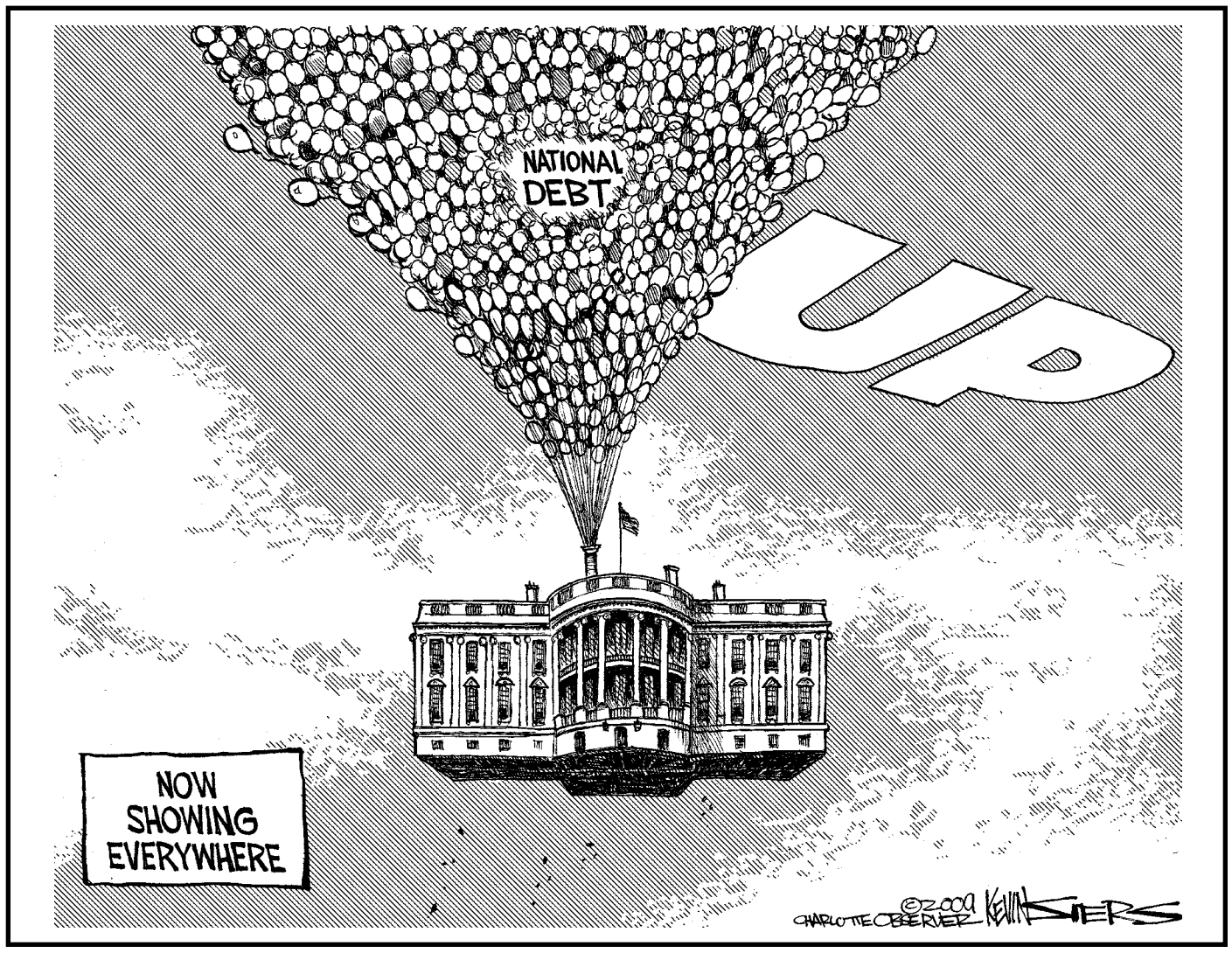


State of the Commonwealth Address

Editor's Note: The following is the text of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's State of the Commonwealth Address, which he delivered on May 27, 2009, at the House of Representatives' chamber on Capital Hill.

Fourth of a five-part series

By BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Benigno R. Fitial is the governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Let us be clear about what happened. Federalization was approved without meaningful economic studies for political reasons. Federalization harms our local self-government and presents formidable and unprecedented economic challenges.

A 2007 U.S. Labor report strongly suggested that higher federal minimum wages would harm the CNMI economy and shock businesses. This study was not taken seriously and no alternative study has yet been completed for American Samoa or the CNMI.

I joined American Samoa Rep. Eni Faleomavaega in supporting an immediate suspension of further wage hikes until objective studies could be completed to safely justify further increases in the midst of a very weak and vulnerable economic climate. I regret that Delegate Gregorio Sablan did not join us in supporting the immediate suspension of further wage hikes pending an objective economic evaluation. And I regret that we now have to wait until next year before a federal study is finally released to provide badly needed federal minimum wage guidance for the CNMI and American Samoa.

Although the U.S. government approved the federalization of our immigration largely on the basis of outdated information and without the benefit of an objective economic study, the economic reports we have subsequently seen have not been encouraging. A First Hawaiian Bank report strongly recognizes the economic harm posed by federalization. The Conway-McPhee report also projects substantial economic harm for our Commonwealth. The Conway-McPhee economic study concluded that under federalization, the CNMI economy "stands to lose approximately 44 percent of its real Gross Domestic Product, 60 percent of its jobs, and 45 percent of its real personal income by 2015." Moody's Investor Service recently downgraded our debt rating in part because of federalization. And local real estate appraisals also regularly cite federalization as a basis for diminished property values.

The very premise of federalization indicates economic harm for the Commonwealth. Federalization rests on the assumption of significant immigration restrictions: restrictions on foreign workers, restrictions on foreign investors, and restrictions on foreign students and tourists. Such onerous restrictions can only cause economic harm for the Commonwealth. The federal government cannot severely restrict our access to foreign labor, foreign capital, and foreign students and tourists without causing major economic hardship for our islands.

As a result of federalization, we will no longer have access to Russian and Chinese tourists, which would cause a loss of more than $100 million to the CNMI economy. These are lucrative tourism markets and the loss of these markets would damage the CNMI government and many CNMI businesses, employees, and families.

Federalization harms the Tinian gaming industry. Because of federalization, the Bridge Investment Group has suspended its Tinian investment and the Tinian Dynasty is now at risk without access to Chinese tourists, which make up more than 70 percent of its clientele. Federalization also compromises Rota's gaming industry and puts our emerging education and education-tourism industry at risk.

Except for IT&E, all call center development plans have been halted because of federalization. Plans for a telemedicine operation have been shelved because of federalization. Investors are concerned. To this day, we have yet to see the draft regulations for foreign workers and foreign investors; and our Commerce Department reports a noticeable decrease in the number of investor visa applications and renewals. Foreign investment has decreased because of federalization. Investors are waiting to see the new rules.

At a House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs hearing earlier this month, I pointed out a number of problems with U.S. Public Law 110-229. The visa waiver regulations proposed by DHS, and defended at the hearing by its witness, will prevent access to the Russian and China markets. There is no evidence that DHS will in fact be ready to protect the Commonwealth's borders by Nov. 28, 2009, and a deferral of the effective date would help the Commonwealth use anticipated stimulus funding more effectively. DHS still may not have the necessary funding to secure our borders and ensure a smooth transition—a point also strongly emphasized and repeated by our Delegate, Gregorio Sablan.

At the hearing, I was pleased that the CNMI received strong support from the Governor of Guam and other Guam leaders. And I was encouraged by the sympathetic questioning by members of the committee. I believe the subcommittee intends to pursue the issues raised during the hearing and I am hopeful that some change in DHS policy will come as a result.

To be continued.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Looking and leaping

By ED STEPHENS

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

I hate repeating myself, not because I'm impatient, but because you just might be and repetition makes for lousy writing. But since I'm one of the few guys to have boldly and publicly predicted the U.S. meltdown years before the fact (right here, Feb. 13, 2004, to name one time), some of my acquaintances, even the most formerly smug of them, pump me for information because they know I caught the bus that just about everyone else missed.

So let's get this straight: The full-blown U.S. economic crisis hasn't even started yet. The financial displacements are just a mere appetizer for the main course. The lull in the interim will be filled by nonsense, such as talk of "recovery" and so on. Well, you don't recover from a structural economic change; you change from a structural economic change. Duh.

This comes at an interesting juncture for Saipan's workers, since, given Saipan's lousy state of affairs, bailing to the states never looked so good.

Unfortunately, bailing to the states never looked so bad, either; the economy is shedding over a half million private sector jobs per month.

I know a foreign family that just got raked over the coals making such a move. The mom took a job as a teacher in the U.S. The place she worked turned out to be such a violent, nasty hellhole that her husband and youngest son, who followed her to the states, stayed over 1,500 miles away in someone's guest room, so that her youngest son could go to a reasonably safe school. Her other two kids, who were planning to join the family's new beachhead in the states, marked time with hometown relatives until things could get settled and cozy in the mainland.

Well, cozy never happened. All of this sacrifice got them exactly nowhere. The teacher was laid off from her job due to budget cuts. Her odds of finding another job are apparently close to zero. So, their dream broken, their money utterly depleted, they've going back to where they started.

I don't want to make too much hay out of one situation, and it's not up to me to poke Saipan's workers in the chest and tell them how to conduct their job searches. But since my wife's family is very much a family of immigrants, and I am constantly drafted to help their relatives and friends and parishioners in these things, I get the play-by-play narrative of these events no matter what. So I can't stop my brain from compiling tallies and trends of this stuff; it does it on autopilot.

The bottom line is that it probably pays to be a bit more deliberate about leaping to the states these days. The U.S. is still a rich nation, of course (until it isn't), so I'm not trying to understate that fact.

But the ratio of not-happy stories to happy stories is on a cheerless trajectory, so I will cynically note a few things. Any new arrival could run through a $10,000 grub stake in the blink of an eye. The casual friendliness found in most Saipan situations is not typical in the U.S. You can do just about everything (within reason) on Saipan on a handshake, as long as you have the good sense to know who the crooks are, as everyone does. But try a handshake arrangement in the U.S., and, well, it marks you as a rube.

I promised to offer some thoughts on how Saipan's Filipino workforce, in particular, has some advantages in the upcoming economic times. After all, they built the Commonwealth (quite literally), and deserve some special consideration for that fact.

But until I can pull together those thoughts, I'll note (again) that there are huge and fundamental changes coming to the U.S. economy. The past 10 years in the U.S. won't be anything like the next 10. I'm not saying that bailing to the states (for those who can do so) is a bad move, but the future is not going to be generous to any suckers with a herd mentality; indeed, it will be more important than ever to base decisions on facts and analysis, not rumors, not hopes, and not myths.

The labor-business balance

By JACINTA M. KAIPAT
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jacinta M. Kaipat is the Deputy Secretary of Labor and a former House of Representatives lawmaker.

I write to all our citizens who are concerned about finding jobs in the Commonwealth. This is my No. 1 priority in the Labor Department. We need to open available jobs to our citizens in a fast and effective manner, but we have to be careful about how we do this.

In our situation of serious economic decline, the labor-business balance in the Commonwealth is more important than ever. Citizens want a preference for all jobs; they don't want businesses using foreign workers when unemployment among citizens continues to occur. Businesses want a preference for business-friendly policies; they don't want to be burdened with extra costs at a time when the minimum wage is rising dramatically and the market in the Commonwealth, especially for tourist services, is declining.

Each side has a point. First, it is important that our citizens be employed. That is the only way we can keep our talented people from migrating to the States or falling into poverty here at home. Second, it is important that every business survive this economic downturn because businesses create jobs. If businesses fail, then jobs disappear altogether, and there are no jobs to take their place. When that happens, the entire community loses.

As a community, we must do the best we can for each side of the labor-business balance. Our current labor law, P.L. 15-108, which was enacted in 2007, does that.

On the Labor side, to push for citizen employment, the law provides five basic tools:

1. We have a workforce participation requirement of 20 percent. Citizens must hold 20 percent of the full-time positions in every business in the Commonwealth. That percentage will increase to 30 percent by 2012. In addition, in the proposed regulations, we have increased the requirement for small businesses (fewer than five employees) to employ at least one citizen employee.

2. We have a job vacancy announcement requirement. Every job available in the Commonwealth must be advertised so that citizens know what jobs are available.

3. We have a citizen-preference requirement, so that a citizen who is qualified for a particular job must be given preference in hiring over a foreign worker.

4. We have an approved process for jobs that go to foreign workers—new, renewal, or transfer—so that before giving a job to a foreign worker, the first three requirements must be met. Under the Labor Department's new automation system, we are able to give these requests for approval much more rigorous scrutiny.

5. We have a citizen claims provision that, in the event a foreign worker was hired for a job for which a citizen applicant was qualified, the citizen may make a complaint to the Labor Department and, if he or she wins, collects up to six months in wages from the employer who made the hiring decision.

In addition, there are fees attached to the use of foreign labor (application fees, processing fees, and bonding fees), medical, and repatriation expenses that make the use of foreign labor more expensive. These fees are increased from time to time to cover Labor Department costs and contribute to the Commonwealth revenues.

On the business side, the Labor law recognizes that there are costs involved to businesses from limitations on the free-market for labor. When we impose hiring requirements, there are record-keeping costs in connection with compliance. When we require a citizen preference, there are substantial costs involved in losing the experience of the worker who has previously held the job. Training new workers, even if only for a few months, incurs costs. Any regulatory system imposes delays on businesses, and every delay also involves costs. Additional costs are very difficult for any business to absorb during an economic downturn without cutting jobs. To ease the transition to citizen labor over a three-year period, the Labor law provides four benefits to businesses:

1. We are phasing out the moratorium and we have suspended the periodic exit that imposed recording-keeping costs.

2. We have allowed an exemption from the citizen preference (but not the 20 percent requirement) for lower-paying jobs when a business achieves 35 percent citizen employment in high-paying jobs. We have just increased this to 50 percent in the proposed regulations so the exemption will be harder to get. This exemption will continue to get smaller next year.

3. We have allowed more part-time work and two-year contracts temporarily during the economic depression.

4. We have paid for and installed an interactive website so businesses do not have to pay to advertise jobs, and we have paid for and installed a new automation system so delays are now a matter of only a few days rather than weeks or months.

I believe that this balance is a fair one to both sides: citizens who want jobs, and businesses who want to avoid having to close down. The statistics indicate that most of the permanent loss of jobs during the economic depression has fallen on foreign workers. Their numbers have declined from more than 30,000 in 2005 to fewer than 16,000 today. Even after the garment manufacturers closed down, foreign workers continue to be displaced. More than 2,000 departed the Commonwealth just in the last 12 months. We do not have good statistics on citizen employment because the U.S. Census Bureau does not give the Commonwealth and other territories the same kind of data services it routinely provides to States and counties in the U.S. We are hopeful that our Delegate in Congress can do something about this.

The system is not perfect. Not every citizen will find the kind of job he or she wants. But on the whole, by maintaining a labor-business balance, we will have more citizens employed and keep more businesses open and operating—providing more jobs are available in this economy. I understand the pain and frustration of those individuals who cannot find the jobs they need. The Labor Department is working hard to make available as many job opportunities as possible. I believe we can work our way through this economic depression more successfully with labor-business harmony and this will benefit everyone in our community.

Bankruptcy of an auto icon

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

US automobile icon General Motors has declared bankruptcy. The federal government has interceded to save it from complete disappearance. It declared taxpayers across the country part-owners of the company via paying billions of dollars from their collective tax dollars to enable the emergence of a new GM. Perhaps this is the right decision.

Isn't the appropriate question: What's the genesis of the newly declared bankruptcy? GM made its millions in concert with labor unions, the latter responsible for pushing most industries into bankruptcies. Now, they come back saying taxpayers are the new part-owners after making money from our hard-earned meager income?

There's also the boom-and-bust of the housing industry that started with quiet peddlers in the U.S. Congress dictating via Fanny Mae and Freddy Mac real estate loans lots of consumers can't afford in the name of affordable housing. For instance, consumers who sought $300,000 real estate loans were told, "We can give $600,000 so you can buy your dream house." I am sure this isn't the American Dream of forcing debts upon the multitude, most of whom have recently lost the first family home.

I am not an economist by any stretch of the imagination. Nor do I have the aptitude when it comes to numbers crunching. But personal intuition says that a lot has gone wrong with liberal policies that have set the stage for a bankrupt U.S. of A. Liberals, conservatives and centrists need not present dogmatic views of these heavily messy national issues. But all must converge constructively to save the union from becoming a beggar state from foreign countries with huge reserves like Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, China and other economies of scale that have done well guarding against greed from spreading like wildfire.

I am not complaining either but I've grown up believing in the very core that made our country the greatest, founded on rugged American individualism. Somehow, we dropped the ball by taking long snoozes, allowing foreign auto industries to study the habits of consumers across the country and successfully provide them with their needs and fancies. A national re-awakening is in order if it isn't too late already. This mess is like the decision to enter Iraq: Yes you can get in, but can you go out? Be that as it may, we hope the new GM and UAW could realize what it will take to endure successfully. Otherwise, there may be a dire need for Bailout II.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼78°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲85	▼78
Palau	Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Yap	Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼77
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲90	▼79
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼77

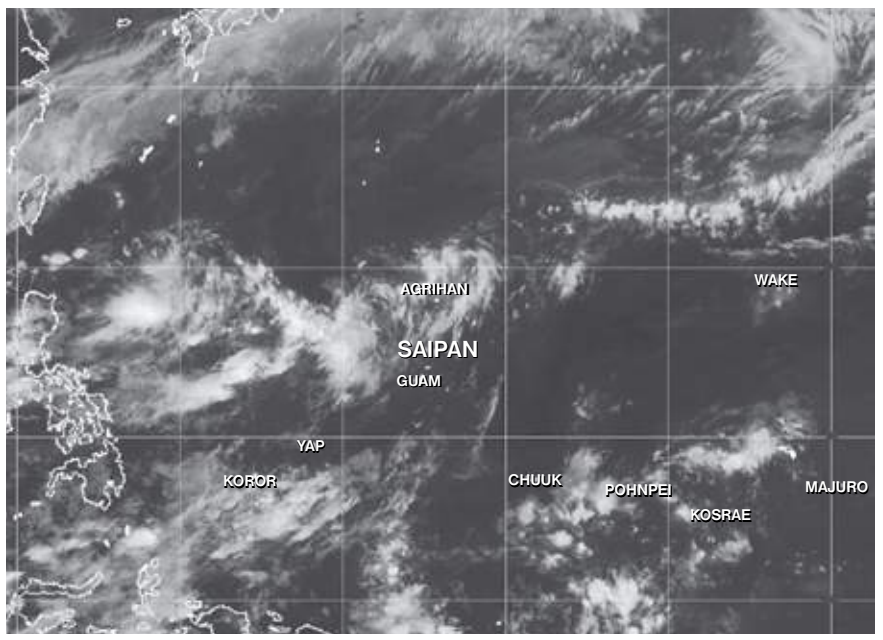
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲56	▼50
Beijing	Cloudy	▲91	▼66
Hong Kong	Partly Sunny	▲90	▼77
Honolulu	Cloudy	▲83	▼75
London	Showers	▲64	▼45
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲72	▼58
Manila	Rain	▲83	▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲88	▼74
New York	Rain	▲64	▼58
Osaka	Showers	▲81	▼64
Paris	Cloudy	▲65	▼49
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼65
Rome	Partly Sunny	▲78	▼65
Salem	Showers	▲73	▼52
San Francisco	Thundershowers	▲63	▼54
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲76	▼61
Tokyo	Showers	▲75	▼64
Washington, DC	Rain	▲67	▼58

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
4:52 AM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
12:27 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
7:37 PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough runs from 20N130E to a weak surface circulation centered near 22N140E then continues as a stationary front to 25N166E. Convergent southwest winds near the Marianas are triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 100 miles of a line from 13N139E to 21N149E. This area includes the CNMI. Favorable upper-level winds combined with low-level convergence are enhancing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west-southwest of Yap and Palau within 150 miles of a line from 11N136E to 8N131E to 2N132E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:45 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:38 PM	3:24 AM
Saturday	5:32 PM	4:09 AM
Sunday	6:25 PM	4:56 AM
Monday	7:17 PM	5:46 AM
Tuesday	8:06 PM	6:38 AM

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- BUSINESS
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- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 9, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:30am	5:20am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

CO9598	2:20am	2:50am	5, 6
CO9312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-PALAU (ROR)

CO893	5:50pm	6:50pm	3, 5
CO953	6:50pm	7:50pm	1, 7
CO953	7:35pm	10:05pm	2, 4, 6

PALAU (ROR)-MANILA

CO893	7:35pm	9:10pm	3, 5

GUAM-MANILA

CO893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via ROR
CO933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR111	6:00am	7:45am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	Daily via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25am	Daily

GUAM-NARITA (NRT)

CO961	6:35am	9:10am	Daily
NW83	8:00am	1:55pm	Daily via KIX
CO6	12:00pm	2:45pm	Daily
NW73	4:05pm	7:00pm	Daily
CO963	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1
OZ119	4:20am	7:00am	4,6

GUAM-OSAKA (KIX)

NW83	8:00am	10:45am	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	Daily

GUAM-NAGOYA (NGO)

CO971	7:45am	10:30am	Daily
NW23	4:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
CO975	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	excl 1
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1 via KIX
OZ119	4:20am	11:20am	4, 6 via KIX

SEOUL (ICN)-HONG KONG

OZ721	9:05am	11:45am	Daily
OZ723	7:45pm	10:30pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-MANILA

OZ701	8:35am	11:25am	Daily
OZ703	7:50pm	10:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

CO9598	3:25am	4:00am	5, 6
CO9312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
CO9598	2:20am	4:00am	5, 6 via ROP
CO9596	7:00am	5:00am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily x6
CO9312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

CO9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

PALAU (ROR)-GUAM

CO954	1:10am	5:30am	3, 5, 7
CO954	1:45am	4:40am	1, 2
CO892	2:35am	5:30am	4, 6

MANILA-PALAU (ROR)

CO892	10:10pm	1:50am+1	3, 5

MANILA-GUAM

CO892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3, 5 via ROR
CO934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR110	10:00pm	4:00am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:30pm	1:40am+1	Daily via NGO
NW100	7:50pm	12:30am+1	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-GUAM

NW74	10:00am	2:50pm	Daily
CO962	10:30am	3:00pm	Daily
CO7	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
NW84	6:20pm	1:40am+1	Daily
CO964	8:25pm	1:00am+1	Daily
NW82	8:30pm	1:05am+1	4
NW82	8:30pm	1:20am+1	X 4

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6

OSAKA (KIX)-GUAM

NW84	9:05pm	1:40am+1	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-GUAM

NW24	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
CO970	11:30am	4:30pm	Daily
CO972	8:25pm	12:55am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	excl 7

HONG KONG-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ724	12:30am	5:05am	Daily
OZ722	1:15pm	5:45pm	Daily

MANILA-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ702	12:45pm	5:45pm	Daily
OZ704	11:50pm	4:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

A tribute to Thomas Berry

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's *Opinion Section*

Birthed into a Piedmont meadow in the Tar Heel country of North Carolina, William Nathan Berry, Jr., better known in the Ecozoic Age community as Thomas Berry, the cultural historian, died Monday, June 1, 2009, at the age of 94. He was a resident of the Planet Earth, a bona fide celebrant of the Universe, a citizen of Eternity!

His words, feelings and thoughts, have found resonance in our spirits; in his deeds we manage to measure our steps. Our perspectives have been broadened, our resolve deepened as he enriched the discourse and vocabulary in the bioregions of our hearts. In another time, we might call him Saint, Sage, Warrior, Poet, Prophet—and none singly, even together, would adequately apply. He was simply called Brother. Before his being, we are reduced to silence, and stillness lingers in our soul.

So, in his own words, let us hear the one who once said, "It takes a Universe to raise a child." Gems from Thomas Berry for our keeping.

For peoples, generally, their story of the universe and the human role within the universe is their primary source of intelligibility and value. Only through this story of how the Universe came to be in the beginning and how it came to be as it is does a person come to appreciate the meaning of life or to derive the psychic energy needed to deal effectively with those crisis moments that occur in the life of the individual and in the life of the society. Such a story…communicates the most sacred of mysteries. …Our story not only interprets the past, it also guides and inspires our shaping of the future…

The Universe story is the quintessence of reality. We perceive the story. We put it in our language, the birds put it in theirs, and the trees put it in theirs. We can read the story of the Universe in the trees. Everything tells the story of the Universe. The winds tell the story, literally, not just imaginatively. The story has its imprint everywhere, and that is why it is so important to know the story. If you do not know the story, in a sense you do not know yourself; you do not know anything…

Both education and religion need to ground themselves within the story of the universe as we now understand this story through empirical knowledge. Within this functional cosmology, we can overcome our alienation and begin the renewal of life on a sustainable basis. This story is a numinous revelatory story that could evoke the vision and the energy required to bring not only ourselves but the entire planet into a new order of magnificence…

It's all a question of story. We are in trouble just now because we are in between stories. The Old Story—the account of how the world came to be and how we fit into it—sustained us for a long time. It shaped our emotional attitudes, provided us with life purpose, energized action, consecrated suffering, integrated knowledge, guided education. We awoke in the morning and knew where we were. We could answer the questions of our children. We could identify crime, punish transgressors. Everything was taken care of because the story was there. But now it is no longer functioning properly, and we have not yet learned the New Story…

Our present urgency is to recover a sense of the primacy of the Universe as our fundamental context, and the primacy of the Earth as the matrix from which life has emerged and on which life depends. Recovering this sense is essential to establishing the framework for mutually enhancing human-Earth relations for the flourishing of life on the planet…

We have a new story of the Universe. Our own presence to the Universe depends on our human identity with the entire cosmic process. In its human expression the Universe and the entire range of earthly and heavenly phenomena celebrate themselves and the ultimate mystery of their existence in a special exaltation. …Science has given us a new revelatory experience. It is now giving us a new intimacy with the Earth…

If the Rhine, the Yellow, the Mississippi rivers are changed to poison, so too are the rivers in the trees, in the birds, and in the humans changed to poison, almost simultaneously. There is only one river on the planet Earth and it has multiple tributaries, many of which flow through the veins of sentient creatures…

All human activities, professions, programs, and institutions must henceforth be judged primarily by the extent to which they inhibit, ignore, or foster a mutually enhancing human/Earth relationship…

The basic mood of the future might well be one of confidence in the continuing revelation that takes place in and through the Earth. If the dynamics of the Universe from the beginning shaped the course of the heavens, lighted the Sun, and formed the Earth, if this same dynamism brought forth the continents and seas and atmosphere, if it awakened life in the primordial cell and then brought into being the unnumbered variety of living beings, and finally brought us into being and guided us safely through the turbulent centuries, there is reason to believe that this same guiding process is precisely what has awakened in us our present understanding of ourselves and our relation to this stupendous process. Sensitized to such guidance from the very structure and functioning of the Universe, we can have confidence in the future that awaits the human venture…

In his writings, he was *Befriending the Earth*, dreaming *The Dream of the Earth,* telling *The Universe Story*, declaring *The Great Work*, and recollecting *Evening Thoughts*. Harken to his song and those of us who laud the virtues of the Marianas Marine Monument may discover tranquility and equanimity in the bioregional longings of our souls.

Letter to the Editor

How will it help?

After reading the article titled "US immigration reform bill to benefit CNMI" in the *Saipan Tribune*'s June 4th's edition, I can't see how the bill could possibly help the U.S. or the CNMI. In fact, I see extremely negative consequences that anyone reading Paul's Epistle to the Romans can recognize. I am deeply disturbed by its provisions to grant immigration benefits to same-sex partners. While we should be focusing on making sure that families can stay together, that shouldn't be done by making a deal with the devil. But we don't need to argue about that. We all know that the provision is just a way to bring about de facto federal recognition of same-sex marriages. My only question is if Rep Sablan is ready to support de facto federal recognition of same-sex marriage or not?

Jack Woods
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

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Why we are in this race

By HEINZ S. HOFSCHNEIDER and ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

These tough and terrible economic times require all of us to pull together united against a catastrophe in the making. Once the envy of the insular areas, our islands are now derided as a case study of "what not to do." The Commonwealth needs credible leadership to guide us out of this mess.

Previous administrations lost their way in leading our people and too many promises remain unfulfilled. Many of our own citizens have left our shores because uncertain times have forced them to earn their living elsewhere in the United States

Those who aspire to lead must pledge to maintain a truly open government and a healthy respect for their constituency. Many of the problems before us today and in past administrations are the result of government in the shadows. This is the result of leadership that cannot identify problems. This is the result of dictatorial leadership unafraid to use its offices to direct undesirable outcomes, and one that eschews public debate, and turns a deaf ear to differing opinions and criticism. Fair play, equal treatment, and public access are fundamental to a free society, and essential to the development of a robust economy.

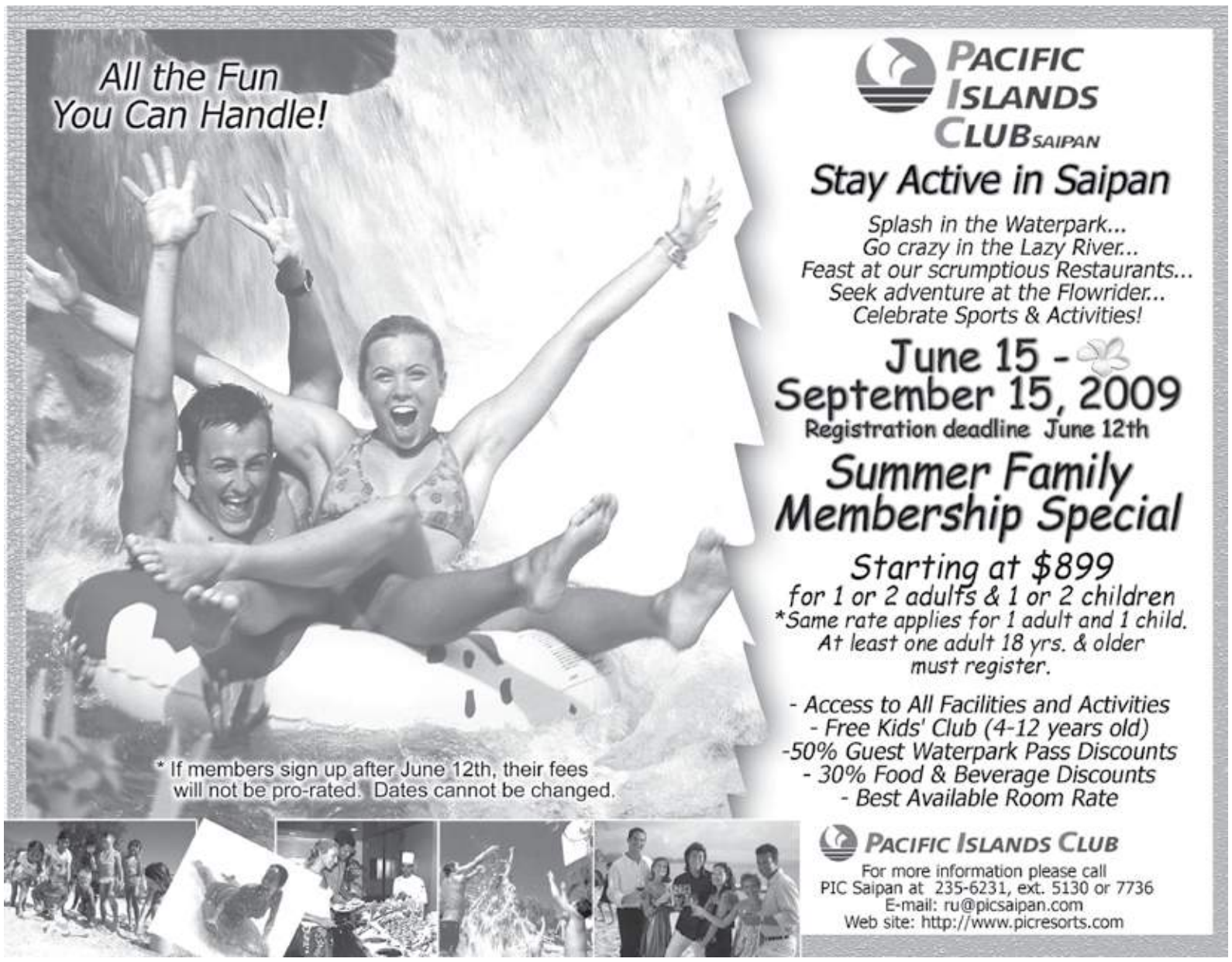
The Hofschneider and Palacios team will forge a new path for a Commonwealth founded on the simple virtues of hard work, sacrifice, and patience. Our efforts will emphasize the principle that hardworking citizens earning an honest day's work should be rewarded with an accountable and transparent government that spends your taxes wisely and enforces the law fairly and in an even-handed manner. As elected leaders, we expect to be judged by the highest standards. We hold sacred our responsibility to support and defend all of the laws of the Commonwealth. We hold firmly onto the belief that as holders of the public trust, each elected official should and must serve all of the people in the Northern Marianas.

On veteran benefits

If anyone in particular is to be acknowledged with reference to the VA Clinic or VA benefits, let's not forget all the past VA directors (CNMI office) who worked hard and lobbied to improve our VA benefits. Unfortunately, according to then Secretary for Veterans Affairs, Mr. Jesse Brown, during a 1994 VA conference in Hickam Air Force Base in Honolulu, that due to the CNMI having then a small number of veterans (less than 200), the U.S. Veterans Administration did not see it worth establishing a VA Clinic in the CNMI. Instead, they will fly our veterans to Guam to be seen by VA doctors. It was in early part of 1994 when the VA doctor and clinical psychiatrist would fly to Saipan once a month and diagnosed our veterans (space and support staff were provided by CHC) and to Rota and Tinian on a quarterly basis to assist our veterans. It was all about the numbers (veterans population) then, and it is still about numbers today. The late Vicente "Ben Rai" Guerrero, Mr. Antonio "Mitch" Tomokane, Mr. Donald M. Fleming, and Mr. Robert A. Guerrero are former chief(s) and later, director(s). These gentlemen tried their very best and I give them credit as well. My point is, it's been over 25 years of lobbying with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, through our CNMI Washington Representative(s) and not just now or over five years ago as Mr. Frank H. Cepeda puts it.

CNMI Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan is our voice to the U.S. Congress. That's his job to lobby for whatever our counterpart (U.S. mainland and all U.S. territories) are benefiting. I'm sure he knows what he's doing. Let's give him the benefit of the doubt. I'm sure that our CNMI executive officer for Military and Veterans Affairs, Mrs. Ruth Coleman, knows that as well. Instead of pointing fingers, please let's all work together. If you have any great ideas that will help improve our lives, be it health, education or the well-being of our people, share it.

Joe M. Palacios
Former director, Veterans Affairs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E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL MEDIA SERVICES

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a **Parole and Revocation Hearing** is scheduled for **June 09, 2009, (Tuesday)** beginning at **9:00 a.m., at the Vicente Taman Seman Building, Department of Corrections Briefing/Training Room,** Susupe, Saipan. The following items are included in the agenda:

I.	**Preliminary Matters**		
	1. Call to Order		
	2. Roll call		
	3. Presence of Quorum		
II.	**Consent Items**		
	1. Adoption of Agenda		
	2. Adoption of Parole Hearing Minutes - February 18 & 19, 2009		
III.	**Parole Application**	**BOP No.**	**Criminal Case No.**
	1. Jeffery Cabrera	09-002	06-0212C
	2. Chun Shan Xu	09-005	02-0104
	3. Antonio W. Nekaifes	09-006	08-0136/06-0116
	4. Romeo L. Romolor	09-007	06-0225R
	5. Ivan T. Dela Cruz	09-008	08-0044/06-0263
IV.	**Revocation**	**BOP No.**	**Criminal Case No.**
	1. Marlon Martin	07-004	04-0282
V.	**Miscellaneous**	**BOP No.**	**Criminal Case No.**
	1. Dewayne Sibetang	05-019	00-0164D
	re: Psychiatric Evaluation Report		
VI.	**Adjournment**		

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Ramond B. Camacho May 22, 2009
Chairman, Board of Parole

Tourist submarine *Deepstar* unveils local promotion

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Besides the natural wonders of the ocean, the Deepstar Submarine tour also shows off Saipan's turbulent past, with the submarine descending to the wreckage of a U.S. World War II fighter plane and a Japanese cargo ship.

The only submarine tour in the CNMI will be offering discounted rates throughout the month of June, with local passengers needing only to fork out $35 to enjoy Saipan's undersea life.

Pacific Subsea sales marketing manager Seiko Nakamura said their company unveiled the promotion as a treat to students who either graduated or who have just started their summer vacation.

Seiko said she knows of people who have lived on Saipan all their lives who have yet to try Pacific Subsea's *Deepstar* submarine.

She said this beautiful tour of Saipan's crystal clear waters is better than those of Hawaii and Guam, which have similar submarine tours.

"This is the time to do it, as this promotion is just for 30 days," Seiko said.

For the special promotional price of $35, a local customer plus a child below 11 years old can take the 40-minute submarine tour and witness the island's incredible marine life.

A trip for an additional child (6-11 years old) costs $25, while children 2-5 years old need only pay $10.

Besides the natural wonders of the ocean, the submarine tour also shows off Saipan's turbulent past, with the submarine descending to the wreckage of a U.S. World War II fighter plane and a Japanese cargo ship.

Seiko said the local promotion provides a great opportunity for the local community to ride the submarine.

As an added attraction, starting this month Pacific Subsea introduces a "mermaid" starring local resident Melissa Halaby.

For reservations and for more information about Pacific Subsea, call 322-7746 to 47. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Coastal Resources Management Office hereby reminds the general public of the regulation that is in effect that any and all signs posted along roadways in an Area of Particular Concern, such as the shoreline, wetlands and port & industrial areas, must have a CRM permit prior to such posting.

Beginning June 15, 2009 all such signs, whether for political campaign or otherwise, that are not CRM permitted will be removed as litter.

Please call 664-8300 or visit the CRM office at 2nd Floor Morgen's Building, Beach Road, San Jose, should you have questions or comments about this reminder.

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2X4X20 TREATED: $11.50

UTILITY LUMBER REGULAR	UTILITY LUMBER TREATED
2X4X12 - $3.40	2X4X12 - $3.40
2X4X14 - $3.90	2X4X14 - $3.90
2X4X16 - $4.50	2X4X16 - $7.70
2X4X18 - $5.00	2X4X18 - $8.80
2X4X20 - $6.10	2X4X20 - $9.60
2X6X12 - $6.70	2X6X12 - $10.00
2X6X14 - $7.60	2X6X14 - $11.00
2X6X16 - $8.90	2X6X16 - $13.00
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2X6X20 - $10.90	2X6X20 - $10.90

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USED CARS

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R08-022B	2005	ECHO 4DR	AUTO	70447	AQUA	ADH-691	7,999	
R08-019F	2005	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	41092	WHITE	ACD-346	~~10,799~~	8,999
R09-003B	2007	CAMRY HYBRID	AUTO	16978	SILVER	ABZ-299	25,299	
R09-005F	2006	MATRIX BASE	AUTO	57427	SILVER	ABZ-639	10,999	
N/A	2006	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	27774	WHITE	ACC-214	10,999	
N/A	2006	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	25065	WHITE	ACC-244	10,999	
N/A	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	46775	WHITE	ACE-236	11,899	
GM CARS								
R07-013F	2005	AVEO HATCHBACK	AUTO	39164	ORANGE	ADO-022	~~9,599~~	6,899
R07-034F	2005	OPTRA 4DR.	AUTO	14592	SILVER	ACD-020	~~10,999~~	7,499
LEXUS								
R08-003F	2003	LEXUS LS430	AUTO	54477	IVORY	ADU-502	~~29,999~~	19,999
OTHER CARS & TRUCKS								
U07-034T	2000	NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR.	AUTO	68648	WHITE	ACT-812	~~10,999~~	6,999
U08-038T	2001	MITS MONTERO WGN	AUTO	93155	BEIGE	CVS-88	~~7,999~~	6,999
GM VAN								
R09-009F	2003	CHEVY EXPRESS VAN 15-PAX	AUTO	142674	WHITE	BUS-1079	5,999	
N/A	2006	CHEVY EXPRESS VAN 15-PAX	AUTO	42356	WHITE	BUS-1193	12,999	
SPORT UTILITY								
U07-050T	2002	RAV4 4DR 4WD	AUTO	39182	WHITE	ABW-677	~~13,699~~	12,799

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TOYOTA ACDelco

CONGRATULATIONS!

Abigail Anne Dimaano poses with her family after graduating First Honorable Mention from Grace Christian Academy Junior High School on May 28, 2009. She received the highest grade point for grade 8 level and for the entire junior high school level. A consistent honor student since Kindergarten, Abigail Anne was the G8 Paul class treasurer and was 1st Historian for the National Junior Honor Society. She participated in the Junior High School Mock Trial, Academic Bee, and Math Counts and won second place for her Science Project on health category. She was also a member of the GCA Junior High School girls varsity basketball team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mark Daniel Versoza poses with his trophies and medals received during the graduation ceremony held at Grace Christian Academy chapel on May 27. He was awarded for Consistent Honor Roll, was a recipient of one of the major Character awards, the Barnabas Encourager, and for winning first place in the Science Fair and Perfect Attendance.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HIGH-TECH GRADUATION

Noah Peter Mesa, left, and Jenisha Jo Dubrall, right, pose with the webcast of their very proud fathers, Peter Mesa (left side of computer) and Jesse Dubrall (right side of computer), who were able to witness their first-borns' Kindergarten class graduation via Skype all the way from Kuwait, through the webcam of a laptop provided by Lucille Aguon. Peter and Jesse are on their second deployment in Kuwait. Congratulations to the Sr. Remedios Graduating Class of 2009, all the way from Kuwait! The Sr. Remedios Kinder graduation rites were held Wednesday night at the Multi Purpose Center.

Congratulations to Matt Jason Moran, who received three medals during the Grace Christian Academy Awards Day held on May 27, 2009. Moran was awarded medals for perfect attendance, for being second place with his Science Project and for being the PGFC Regional Impromptu Champion. He also received two trophies for Consistent President's List with A average in all subjects and no grade below 96 throughout the school year. He also received the Citizenship Award for demonstrating excellent behavior in and outside the classroom.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Call toll-free hotline at 1-886-486-7751 Monday thru Friday from 10am to 7pm for details.

SDA clinic reaches out to Saipan's underserved

On May 31, Sunday, the Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic opened its doors bright and early at 7am for its third annual "Clinic With A Heart" day—a special day of free dental treatment for children and adults on Saipan.

This free dental day is set up specifically for those who are experiencing a toothache and have no means to visit a dentist for relief.

The Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic treated 91 patients on Sunday as well as donating all dental supplies. Treatment ranged from extractions, fillings, and exams, to x-rays, pulpal treatment, oral health care instruction and more.

Each patient was taken cared of in SDA's state-of-the-art dental clinic and each one left the clinic with a free toothbrush and a big smile, knowing that they were on their way to a healthier mouth.

The extra-special part to this free dental treatment day was the 18 SDA staff who volunteered their time and skills to serve the underserved of Saipan.

Dr. Ken D. Pierson is the director of the Seventh-Day Adventist Dental Clinic. When asked why the SDA Clinic enjoys donating their time and supplies to serve the unreached dental needs of Saipan residents, he said, "Well, that's the SDA Clinic's mission! All three of the dentists here at SDA are church mission dentists. We aim to serve and care for the needs of everyone on Saipan. That's why we open our clinic for special free dental days. We want to help and be of service to others as Christ was. He is our example and we should model our lives after His."

Earlier this year in February, the SDA Dental Clinic held another free clinic day especially for children called "Give Kids A Smile" where they treated over 70 kids.

The SDA Dental Clinic is a frontrunner on Saipan for state-of-the-art dentistry and has been serving the Saipan community for the past 36 years. The SDA Clinic plans on continuing the annual tradition of "Clinic With A Heart."

The Seventh-day Adventist Clinic accepts major insurance plans and Medicaid. Call 234-6323 for an appointment. ***(PR)***

Back row, from left: Ernie LaCorte, Shunji Jin, Dr. Mike Stafford, Lovely Lopez, Lori Serna, Twyla Seaton, Antonee Aguilar, Jidda Bariso, and Nancy Aglipay. Front row, from left: Jho LaCorte, Cely Torres, Frank Diesta, Atsuko Eck, Allen Stafford, Dr. Ken Pierson, and Dr. Crystal Edmister. Not in picture: Gina Mercado and Fidel Barro.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MMAC Team Captains' closeout meeting

The Marianas March Against Cancer committee is reminding all Team Captains that the final close out meeting for this year's even is on Wednesday, June 10, at 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. Each team received an electronic evaluation form via e-mail. Fill in the evaluation form, print and bring it to the meeting. If the Team Captain or a team representative cannot attend the meeting, submit a electronic copy *before* the Team Captains' meeting to Reina Camacho at reinacamacho@gmail.com and Tara White at tara670@hotmail.com. Any additional money raised after the midnight collection deadline may be submitted during this meeting. Although the deadline for team's incentive prize orders is not until June 30, teams may also submit the orders at this time.

The MMAC main committee's final meeting will be Thursday, June 11. The location will be announced at a later time. ***(PR)***

Oleai Elementary PTSA meeting

The PTSA Officers of Oleai Elementary School would like to inform the parents and guardians of Oleai Elementary School that there will be a PTSA meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, 6:15pm in the school cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend. ***(PR)***

Saipan Southern High summer class schedule

Saipan Southern High School will be holding summer school classes from June 22 to July 31, 2009. First session is from 8am to 12pm and second session is from 12:30pm to 4:30pm. Seating is limited and is available on first-come, first served basis. Class is open to all public school students. Please come and see the counselors to register. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of '89 reunion activities

The Marianas High School Class of 1989 is inviting all MHS 89ers to its 20th Class Reunion Activities.

■ Family Picnic Day: Saturday, June 6, 2009, Minatchom Atdao, Susupe, from 9am to sundown.

■ Reunion Mass: Friday, June 12, 2009, Kristo Rai Church, 6pm.

■ Reunion Banquet: Saturday, June 13, 2009, Pacific Islands Club, from 6pm to 11pm. Fee is $25 per person.

Summer reading program for kids

The Joeten –Kiyu Public Library announces its 2009 Summer Reading Program for children ages 6-12. The theme is "Summer Reading Fun". Free Basic Computer Class is also available for children and adult. Registration is June 9-13 at the library. A parent or guardian is required to register. For the schedule of events, contact the library at 235-7316 or 235-7312.

If you or your child does not have a library card, at the time of the registration, please bring two pieces of identification (one has to be a piece of mail you received recently, showing your current address; the other can be a driver's license or picture ID). ***(PR)***

28th PIBBA conference set

The 28th Annual International Pacific Islands Bilingual Bicultural Association Conference will be held Monday-Thursday, June 22-25, 2009, at the University of Guam, Guam Marriott Resort, and Merlyn Cook School in Malesso. The theme is "Invigorating Languages and Cultures of the Pacific." PIBBA Conference information is available online at www.uog.edu or http://geocities.com/pibba.international. For more information, call Rosa Salas Palomo at 735-2193/1 or Juanita Manibusan at 734-6108 or e-mail pibba.international@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

GTC Elementary festival on Saturday

Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary will be holding its 2nd Annual Cultural and Health Festival on Saturday, June 6, 2009, from 9am to 3pm at the GTC School field in San Roque. There will be activities and game booths, a program, information booths, exciting cultural demonstrations and fun entertainment, including the Binadu Idol competition and the Dancing with the Binadu competition. ***(PR)***

MHS calendar of activities

■ June 5: Last day for seniors

■ June 8-9: Senior graduation practice

■ June 10: Seniors Awards Ceremony, 4pm, at MHS Gym Underclassmen exams (3rd and 4th periods)

■ June 11: Graduation ceremony, 4pm, at MHS Gym, students released at 12pm

■ June 12: Underclassmen exams (1st and 2nd periods)

■ June 15: End of 4th Quarter, last day for underclassmen

■ Sept. 8: First day of classes (students return to school)

For questions and concerns, contact 237-3206. ***(PR)***

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Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

ADDENDUM 1
DPW09-IFB-019

PUERTO RICO DUMP FINAL CLOSURE SAIPAN, MP

1. **General:** The following revisions, additions, corrections, and/or clarifications to the specifications and drawings shall apply to the work affected thereby. Careful note of this Addendum shall be taken by the bidder/contractor, and all trades affected shall be fully advised of the information contained herein. In the event of a conflict between drawings, specifications and this Addendum, the contents of this Addendum shall govern. All further conflicts in the work resulting from, or caused by, the contents of this Addendum must be brought to the attention of the Contracting Officer for resolution. **Failure to acknowledge this bid Addendum in accordance with instructions may subject your bid to rejection on the affected item(s)/service(s).**

2. **Pre-Bid Conference:** A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at ***Thursday, June 11,2009 at 10:00 a.m. local time at the Solid Waste Management Division's Lower Base Transfer Station, Lower Base, Sa/pan, MP.***

3. **All Questions:** All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time ***Thursday, June 18, 2009*** to Mr. Steve Hiney, Contracting Officer's Technical Representative, Lower Base Transfer Station, or fax to (670) 322-2762.

4. **Sealed Bids:** must be marked "DPW09-IFB-019". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. July 6,2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 9:00 a.m. local time July 6, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-Mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 6, 2009, and must be received no later than July 15, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

5. **Bid Opening:** Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, July 16,2009, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids wil1 be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on July 6, 2009

All other requirements of the Invitation for Bids of the project package remain as stated.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

The House of Representatives
SIXTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, Saipan, MP 96950

Request for Public Comments

Date: June 1, 2009

Contact: Representative Joseph C. Reyes
Telephone: (670) 664-8836
Facsimile: (670) 664-8838

The House Standing Committee on Commerce and Tourism would like to solicit comments from the general public on House Bill 16-248 "To repeal and reenact 4 CMC § 1301 (A); and for other purposes". Copies of the legislation may be obtained from the following places:

1. Request to the Office of Representative Joseph C. Reyes
2. It may be viewed at **www.camachocnmi.com** under Legislative Bills, H.B. 16-248
3. Request for digital copy via email to **rep.jcreyes@gmail.com**

Members of the general public are encouraged to submit written testimony on or before June 15, 2009. To submit written testimony, please drop-off or fax to the Office of Representative Joseph C. Reyes (664-8838) or may be mailed to P.O. Box 500586 Saipan, MP 96950. You can also submit your digital copies to **rep.jcreyes@gmail.com.**

For additional information, you may contact the Office of Representative Joseph C. Reyes.

Rep. Joseph C. Reyes
Chairman

Tsunami SAIPAN

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American Red Cross

Will provide beginning

SWIMMING LESSONS

at the

Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi
June 13 TO June 18, 2009

Swim Lessons will be conducted by the swimmers and coaches
from the Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan

REGISTRATION* -AT THE KAN PACIFIC SWIMMING POOL (MARPI)
09:15 AM TO 9:45 AM • SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2009
*Will be first come, first serve basis.

PRE-REGISTRATION-ACCEPTED BY EMAILING
Mrs. YUKO KIMURA at: tsunamisaipan@yahoo.co.jp

CHILDREN MUST BE AT LEAST 5 YEARS OLD, NO TODDLERS PLEASE.

1. LESSONS START	10-11 AM SATURDAY	JUNE 13
2. SECOND LESSON	10 -11 AM MONDAY	JUNE 15
3. THIRD LESSON	10-11 AM TUESDAY	JUNE 16
4. FOURTH LESSON	10-11 AM WEDNESDAY	JUNE 17
5. FIFTH LESSON & FINAL	10-11 AM THURSDAY	JUNE 18

COST IS $30/CHILD AND $30/FOR ADULTS. SECOND AND MORE PER FAMILY IS $25 EACH. Red Cross Certificates will be issued after the lessons.

SPAM™ COOK-OFF

Cook-Off Competition

Saturday
June 20, 2009 at 1pm

JOETEN SUSUPE

Limit 20 contestants

Winner will receive $250 cash plus a year's supply of SPAM®!

To Enter	Categories	Prizes
Print the following: • your name • address • daytime phone number • SPAM™ recipe on an 8.5x11 sheet of paper and submit to **Dickerson & Quinn** offices, CTSI Building, Sister Remedios Drive, Lower Base, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. For more information call **322-2706**.	Each contestant may enter only one recipe in one of the following categories: • original appetizer • casserole • stew • stir-fry • salad • sandwich Each recipe entry must use at least one 12-ounce can of the SPAM® family of products.	Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. **1st place prize** **$250 cash** plus a year's supply of SPAM® **2nd place prize** **$100 cash** plus a $50 SPAM™ Gift Bag **3rd place prize** **$50 cash** plus a $50 SPAM™ Gift Bag

SPAM® COOK-OFF OFFICIAL RULES AND CONDITIONS

1. Eligibility. This Contest is open only to contestants who are at least 18 years of age or older and amateurs. Professionals are not eligible to enter. For purposes of this event, "Professionals" are defined as anyone who makes money through professional cooking, including, but not limited to chefs, food editors, home economists, and food preparation editors. Employees of Dickerson & Quinn, Joeten Enterprises and the immediate families of each are not eligible to enter.

2. The SPAM® Cook-Off will be held at Joeten Susupe on Saturday, June 20, 2009 at 1pm and will be limited to twenty (20) contestants. Contest registration will be on a first-come, first serve basis. To enter the contest, individuals must submit their name, address, daytime phone number and recipe; all information is to be typed on an 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper, to the Dickerson & Quinn offices, CTSI Building, Sister Remedios Drive, Lower Base, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. All contestants will be required to sign the Official Rules upon entering the contest. Each contestant may enter only one recipe for one of the following categories: original appetizer, casserole, stew, stir-fry, salad or sandwich. Each recipe entry must use at least one 12-ounce can from the SPAM® family of products (any variety). Last day/time to submit entry forms and recipes is Wednesday, June 17, 2009 at 5pm.

3. Recipes must not have been published and/or cannot have won prizes or awards in other contests and must not be restricted in any way. Submission of the recipes gives Dickerson & Quinn the right to modify, edit, adapt, publish and/or use the recipe in any way and in any and all media without limitation and without consideration or payment to the entrant.

4. Each participating contestant will be given a SPAM® T-shirt. Contestants are encouraged to wear the T-shirt during each competition.

5. Contestants must bring their dish for judging by 12:45pm on June 20, 2009. Any dishes brought in after 12:45pm will be disqualified. Judging will begin promptly at 1:15pm. Final heating, cooking and presentation preparation may be done at the contest site. Power outlets will be provided. Contestants must bring all required preparation materials such as warming plates, crock pots, etc. The individual who entered the contest must be present at the judging of their dish. Entries will be judged on the basis of taste, originality and overall presentation. The judges will will be chosen by Dickerson & Quinn.

6. A first, second and third place winner will be selected. The first place winner will receive $250 cash plus a year supply of SPAM® (1 case per month SPAM® 12/12). The second place winner will receive $100 cash plus a $50 SPAM® gift bag. The third place winner will receive $50 cash plus a $50 SPAM® gift bag.

7. All winners will be required to sign an Affidavit of Eligibility and Liability/Publicity Release that will, among other things, allow the use of winners' names by the sponsors. Failure to comply with this condition will result in forfeiture of prizes. All applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations apply. Void where taxed, restricted or prohibited by law. All taxes are the sole responsibility of the winners.

8. Interpretation of the contest rules shall be at the sole discretion of Dickerson & Quinn. Any decisions made shall be binding on all contestants. Judges decisions are final.

9. Contest is sponsored by Dickerson & Quinn.

10. Contest void where prohibited. All prizes will be awarded. Prizes are nonrefundable, nontransferable, and cannot be redeemed for cash. Winners must consent to the use of his/her likeness and/or photograph for advertising purposes without additional compensation. Taxes on prizes are the responsibility of the winner. All recipes become the property of Dickerson & Quinn and will not be returned. Dickerson & Quinn is not responsible for lost, late, misdirected or mutilated entries.

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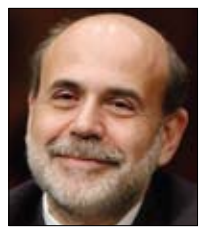
Business

Bernanke: Start work now to curb budget deficit

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke on Wednesday urged Congress and the administration to cut record-high budget deficits, warning that they could erode investor confidence and endanger the economy's long-term health.

Bernanke's comments came as concerns grow at home and overseas about the United States' mounting red ink.

"Even as we take steps to address the recession and threats to financial stability, maintaining the confidence of the financial markets requires that we, as a nation, begin planning now for the restoration of fiscal balance," Bernanke told the House Budget Committee.


Bernanke

The White House estimates that the government will rack up an unprecedented $1.8 trillion budget deficit this year. That would be more than four times last year's all-time high.

The recession has taken a bite out of tax revenues paid by people and companies. At the same time, the government's spending has risen, paying billions to shore up banks, help the unemployed and others hurt by the downturn, the longest since World War II.

Such forceful government intervention to fight the worst financial crisis since the 1930s and lift the U.S. out of recession was "necessary and appropriate" even though it worsened the nation's budget deficit, he

Juan & Galvin

We encourage all registered and eligible voters to exercise their democratic right by voting in the Republican Party's Open Primary on June 27, 2009. No one should be denied their right to vote.

Log on to www.votecnmi.gov or call them at 664-VOTE for voter registration information.

JUANGALVIN09.COM

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Judge to consider Chrysler franchise terminations

NEW YORK (AP)—Chrysler heads back to bankruptcy court Thursday to ask the judge overseeing its case to allow it to terminate the franchise agreements of 789 of its dealers, despite the protests of many dealers who say the move could shutter their businesses for good.

U.S. Judge Arthur Gonzalez is expected to hear testimony from Chrysler LLC executives and dealers during what's expected to be a lengthy hearing. The proceedings start at 8 a.m. EDT.

Auburn Hills, Mich.-based Chrysler maintains that it needs to reduce its dealer base by about 25 percent to a leaner network of about 2,400 dealers in order to emerge from Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection as a stronger company.

But the dealers argue that they don't cost the automaker anything. They say that if Gonzalez approves Chrysler's motion it will result in the shuttering of hundreds of dealerships and thousands of workers will lose their jobs.

A group representing about 300 of the dealers slated to lose their franchises have filed an objection. They also earlier objected to Chrysler's motion to sell the bulk of its assets to a group led by Italy's Fiat Group SpA, because it was tied to the plan to eliminate the dealerships.

Worse economic data thwarts rally

NEW YORK (AP)—The problem with rising expectations is they get tougher to beat.

Investors broke the stock market's four-day rally and sold off after data on the services industry and factory orders came in below forecasts. Factory orders actually rose in April, but the report disappointed investors who anticipated a larger increase.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell almost 66 points, or 0.8 percent, while the Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 1.4 percent. The Nasdaq composite index, which has been outperforming the other indicators this year, fell just 0.6 percent.

Optimism about the economy stabilizing has lifted the Dow 32.5 percent from its 12-year low reached in early March. Over those three months, topping investors' expectations meant clearing a relatively low bar.

Alan Gayle, senior investment strategist at RidgeWorth Capital Management, said he began increasing his stock holdings in March on signs that economic data was becoming "less bad."

Now, Gayle said, "'less bad' is not good enough."

Even Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke was no longer emphasizing signs of economic stabilization on Wednesday, as he has done in recent months.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Wal-Mart says it will create 22,000 jobs in 2009

BENTONVILLE, Ark. (AP)—As Wal-Mart Stores Inc. opens about 150 new or expanded stores in the U.S. in 2009, the company expects to hire about 22,000 people for new positions. Those positions include plenty of cashiers and stock clerks, but the world's largest retailer will also be adding store managers, pharmacists and personnel workers. Wal-Mart is holding its annual shareholders meeting on Friday, and employees from its stores around the world are spending the week in Bentonville at company headquarters. Wal-Mart, still the target of criticism from union-backed groups for its pay and benefits, has improved its health insurance coverage and opened it to full- and part-time employees. The company says 94 percent of its employees have health coverage, either through Wal-Mart or another family member.

Toyota Prius tops monthly auto sales in Japan

TOKYO (AP)—Toyota's Prius was the No. 1 selling vehicle in Japan for May, clinching the top spot in the domestic market for the first time and overtaking Honda's new hybrid, the Insight, which fell to third. The revamped Prius debuted last month amid a hybrid price war with Honda. Toyota Motor Corp. sold 10,915 Prius cars in May in Japan, more than a five-fold increase from the previous month, according to data released Thursday by the Japan Automobile Dealers Association. That means for the second straight month, a hybrid car—powered by gasoline and electricity—topped the sales rankings in Japan, reflecting the popularity of green cars. A government tax break for environment-friendly cars in Japan, part of an effort to stimulate the economy as well as promote green technology, also has helped.

Oil hovers above $66 as 3-month rally cools off

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices hovered above $66 a barrel Thursday in Asia after a jump in U.S. crude inventories triggered a sharp pullback from a three-month rally. Benchmark crude for July delivery was down 3 cents at $66.09 a barrel midday in Singapore in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Wednesday, the contract tumbled $2.43 to settle at $66.12. Oil soared to seven-month highs earlier this week—double the price in March—on investor expectations that a dismal U.S. economy could be stabilizing.

Conveniently located on Lower Navy Hill, 5-minute walk to Commonwealth Health Center. Newly renovated building with 3-bedroom 2 bathrooms. EPA approved solar water heaters. Free Wi-Fi. Rooftop deck facility for BBQ or Party. Air-condition in all bedrooms.

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FINASISU TERRACES

Spacious two bedroom terrace apartments with a beautiful view of Western Saipan from Navy Hill. All units feature a private balcony are fully furnished, air-conditioned and feature FREE wireless DSL internet service.

OCEANVIEW TERRACES

SUNSETVIEW TERRACES

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SELECTED ITEMS ARE LIMITED PER CUSTOMER

Quarter Leg Chicken
Limit 2 Case
SALE $15.99 22 lbs.
SALE $19.99 33 lbs.

Whole Young Chicken
Limit 1
SALE $32.99/case

Pork Spareribs
BBQ or Adobo Cut
SALE $15.99 20 lbs. Limit 2
SALE $14.99 20 lbs. (No cut)

Baby Ribs
SALE $13.99 Limit 2 10 lbs.

Beef Oxtail 1/2" Sliced
10 lbs.
SALE $19.99/case

Beef Backribs
20 lbs.
SALE $19.99/case

Lotus Brand Rice
SALE $23.99 50 lbs.

Jasmine Lady Rice
Limit 1
SALE $27.99 50 lbs.

Diamond G Rice
Limit 1
SALE $33.95 50 lbs.

Ichiban
SALE $7.99 Original Limit 1 Case

Mackerel Pike and Horse Mackerel
22 lbs.
SALE $20.99/case

Milk Fish
SALE $1.19/lb.
$46.99/case

Tilapia
SALE 99¢/lb.
$37.99/case Limit 2 Case

Salad Oil
5 Galllon
Limit 1
SALE $22.99

Real Fresh Milk
Limit 1 Case
Red Only
SALE $19.95/case

Sunkist
All Flavor
SALE $5.50/case Limit 2

Puriss Water
500 ml x 20
SALE $3.99 Limit 2 Case

Butage Gas
Limit 1 Case
SALE $18.99/case

Toilet Tissue 10 Rolls
SALE $2.99

Luvs Diapers Big Box
All Sizes
SALE $15.99 Limit 2 Case

GROCERY ITEMS

Hormel Chili (No Beans)
Limit 12
SALE $1.59

Hormel Corned Beef Hash
Limit 12
SALE $1.79

Master A1 Tuna
SALE 89¢ Limit 6

Coco Tuna
SALE 99¢ Limit 6

Ligo Sardines
SALE 3 for $1.00 Limit 12

Beach Cliff Sardines
SALE 89¢

Tang
22 quarts
SALE $5.99

Black Label Luncheon Meat
SALE $1.39 Limit 6

Armour Vienna Sausage
SALE 49¢/each

Ox & Plam Corned Beef
Limit 6
SALE $2.29/each

Chicken Noodle Soup
SALE 89¢

Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce
All Flavors
SALE $1.29

Hosen Fruit Cocktail
SALE $3.99

Kimchee Base
450 G.
SALE $4.95

Sugar
SALE $1.59/kg.

Argo Cornstarch
SALE 85¢

Lemon Powder
SALE $4.95

Kikkoman
Limit 1 Cs. (6 bts)
1.6 lr.
SALE $3.79

Dragon Brand Vegetable Oil
1 Gal.
SALE 7.99

Fresco Cooking Oil
SALE $7.99

Dinty Moore Stew
(Beef, Chicken and Meat Ball)
SALE $1.49/15 oz.

Morton Salt
SALE 69¢

Vlassic Dill Pickles
$6.99 Whole
$5.95 Whole

Excellent Rice Stick 80 oz.
SALE 99¢

Folgers Coffee
12 oz. Classic Roast
SALE $8.95

Coffeemate
18 oz.
SALE $1.79

Kellogs Triple Pack 52 oz.
SALE $8.95

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Chopped Ham
SALE $7.99/5 lbs.
$15.99/10 lbs.

Beef Rib Finger
SALE $2.99/lb.

Ground Pork
SALE $16.99/10 lbs.

Ground Beef
SALE $15.99/10 lbs.

Pork Riblets
SALE $10.99/case

Hoffy Sausage
44 oz.
SALE $6.99/pkg.

Bar S Bacon
SALE $2.49/pkg.

Pork Butt Slab Only
SALE $1.79/lb.

Miller Sausage
SALE $14.99/pkg.

Hoffy Portuguese Sausage
SALE $1.99/pkg.

Chicken Winggets
SALE $9.99/5 lbs.

Green Mussels
SALE $4.99/5 lbs.

Vega Shrimps
SALE $4.99/lb.

NON-FOOD

Bounty Basic
8 Rolls
SALE $7.95

Soft & Gentle
24 Rolls
SALE $8.99

Cottonelle Tissue
12 Rolls
SALE $3.99

Axxion Foam Plates 125 ct.
SALE $6.95

Foam Plates
40 ct.
SALE $1.50

Safeguard Bar Soap
SALE 65¢/each

Gain Detergent
120 Loads
SALE $16.99

Gain Liquid Detergent
SALE $4.99

Suavitel
850 ml.
SALE $1.59

Clorox
96 oz.
SALE $2.99

Joy Dishwashing Liquid
90 oz.
SALE $5.99

Cream Silk Conditioner
SALE $1.99

White Rain Shampoo & Conditioner
590 ml.
2 for $2.95

PRODUCE

Potato (Jumbo)
SALE 79¢/lb.

Orange
SALE 89¢/lb.

Orange Cello Gala/Fiji Apple
SALE $3.99/pkg.

Banana
SALE 99¢/lb.

Red Onion
SALE 99¢/lb.

Onion
SALE 59¢/lb.

Garlic
SALE 89¢/pack-4 pcs.

U.S. Eggs
Extra Large
SALE $1.59/doz.

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Healthy Facts for Dads

Dads did you know

- Eating healthier
- Being physically active 30 to 60 minutes 3 or more times a day
- Maintaining a healthy weight
- Getting regular check-ups
- Eliminating tobacco

Helps reduce the risk of diabetes and heart diseases.

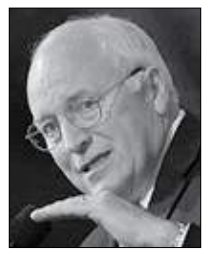
Remember, you CAN prevent diabetes.

To learn more, please contact the Division of Public Health Diabetes Prevention & Control Program at 664-4030/1

Nation

Cheney's secret briefings defended interrogations

WASHINGTON (AP)—Dick Cheney as vice president conducted secret briefings for lawmakers in 2005 aimed at defending harsh interrogations as their methods were coming under congressional scrutiny, according to current and former government officials.



Cheney

The secret briefings followed the Abu Ghraib prison abuse scandal and public revelations about the CIA's rendition and interrogation program, current and former officials with ties to Congress and government intelligence told The Associated Press.

One official with direct knowledge of a March 8, 2005, meeting on the CIA's interrogation program said the briefing was run by Cheney in the situation room at the White House, a secure meeting room. The official said CIA officers were on hand to provide details.

The official said it was not unusual for Cheney to lead such briefings, as he was an aggressive champion of Bush administration national security policies and periodically conducted or sat in on meetings with members of Congress at the White House. The official asked not to be identified because the meeting was secret.

Another Cheney briefing occurred in October 2005 for Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., around the time he had won overwhelming Senate support for banning cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment for all U.S. prisoners, The Washington Post reported in its Wednesday editions. Two other briefings took place in October and November 2005, according to the Post.

'Embarrassing' mistake puts US nuke list online

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government's inadvertent and red-faced Internet posting of a 266-page list of U.S. nuclear sites provided a one-step guide for anyone wanting details about such sensitive information. Obama administration officials said Wednesday the document contained no classified material about nuclear weapons. They contended the locations and other details already were available from public sources.

Energy Secretary Steven Chu said "a snafu" led to the online posting. "A little embarrassing," he acknowledged.

The document, stamped "highly confidential safeguards sensitive," made it onto the Government Printing Office's Web site—and why that happened was not immediately clear. A newsletter that focuses on government secrecy quickly picked up on it. The printing office removed the document when informed "about the potential sensitive nature" of the list, the agency said.

If you believe that your government should be more responsive to the needs of the people and that resources need to be applied more efficiently and effectively, all in the service of the community then please vote

Heinz Sablan Hofschneider and Arnold Indalecio Palacios

in the upcoming Republican Party Primary on June 27, 2009.

Heinz and Arnold

know what to do on Day One.
And you can trust them to do
what is right for the community.

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designated by the
Commonwealth Election Commission

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW09-RFP-025

PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING DESIGN OF ROUTE 36
(Windward/Chalan Kalabera), Federal Aid Project No.CM-NH-0036 (003)

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), are soliciting sealed proposals for the Preliminary Engineering Design of Route 36 (Windward/Chalan Kalabera) on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available because its use is prohibited by Federal Law granting the funding for this project. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with **§70-30.3-305** of the regulations.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Florence C. Sablan, Executive Director, at (670) 234-5897/5898 or fax (670) 234-6040.

The Scope of Work is available on or after June 5, 2009 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars **($50.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Gualo Rai Commercial Building on June 24, 2009. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Joseph M. Inos., Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time July 6, 2009.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of Completion, which details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (résumés and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than twenty five (25) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
1. Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff – 20%
2. Experience of the firm(s) on similar type projects – 20%
3. Project Approach – 25%
4. Schedule of Completion – 35%

Sealed proposals must be marked **"DPW09-RFP-025"**. For Proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of proposals must be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, July 9, 2009 to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, July 9, 2009, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@vzpacfica.net. For Proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 9, 2009 AND must be received no later than July 20, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

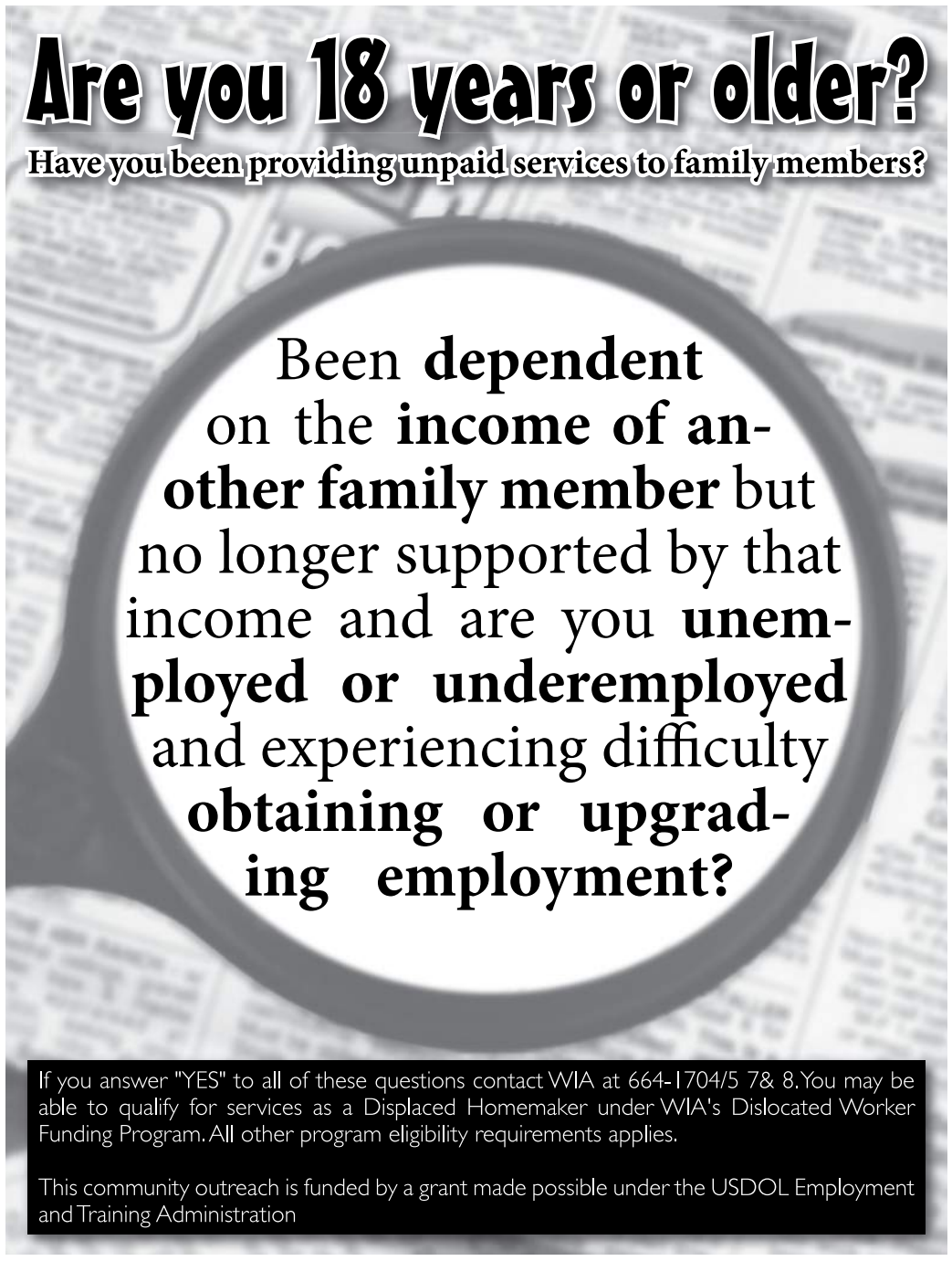
These projects are funded in part through a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Contract award is contingent upon funding approval by the Department of Transportation (DOT).

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for the project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply


Are you 18 years or older?
Have you been providing unpaid services to family members?
Been dependent on the income of another family member but no longer supported by that income and are you unemployed or underemployed and experiencing difficulty obtaining or upgrading employment?
If you answer "YES" to all of these questions contact WIA at 664-1704/5 7& 8.You may be able to qualify for services as a Displaced Homemaker under WIA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements applies.
This community outreach is funded by a grant made possible under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration

IT&E Life in Motion
JOETEN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
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nwa NORTHWEST AIRLINES
NORTHWEST IS NOW A PART OF DELTA AIR LINES
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The 2009 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee would like to recognize and give their sincere appreciation to all of this year's sponsors, teams, volunteers and individuals who assisted us in our Fight Against Cancer.

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IT&E/Saipan Southern High School
Marianas Health Services/GTC Elementary School
Marriage Encounter
Pacific Islands Club
TakeCare/FHP
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Transportation Security Administration

Special Thank You

All Cancer Survivors
Bishop Tomas A. Camacho and the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa
Coral Ocean Point
Department of Public Safety (Police and EMS/Fire)
Free Checking Band
Friends Gi Hinemlo
Governor Benigno R. Fitial & Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos
Hopwood Junior High School
Inatuas Dance Group
Irensian Chamolinian
Island Warriors
John Gonzales
Kings & Dreamers Band
KSPN2 Reporters and Staff
Latte Vibez Band
Maggie C. Camacho
Maggie Naputi
Marianas Variety
Marpac
Mayor Juan B. Tudela
MITA Travel
Office of the Governor & Lt. Governor
Parker Yobei
Rosal Zest
Saipan Tribune
Veni Folta
Vital Signs Band
Xerox Corporation
All who assisted in our fight against cancer in one way or another!

Volunteers

Adeleyah Mojica
Alpha Ecalnea
Ana Tan
Annie Camacho
Atdao Rosario
Bianca Blanco
Daniel Ogo, Jr.
Donald Crisostomo
Edward Ong
Edwin Basto
Emery Cruz
Evangeline Gonzaga
Freddy Ogo
Jaimie Nogis
Janice Castro
Joe Tudela
Marvin Seman
Merle T. White
Miss Marianas Teen Ariel St. Clair
Miss Marianas Universe Serene Maratita
Mr. & Mrs. Jo Vince Taitano
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Cabrera
Natalie Reyes
Omdi Marino
Ray Bermudes
Roger Igisomar
Roman Lizama
Shawn Ogo
Tonya Pangelinan
Timberly Ngewakl
Ton Aguon
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World

Obama in Cairo for outreach speech

CAIRO (AP)—President Barack Obama warmly greeted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Thursday in this ancient seat of Islamic learning and culture before delivering a dose of "truth-telling" about the often fraught relations between Americans and Muslims to a vast, electronically linked-in global audience.

Aides said Obama's long-promised speech would blend hopeful words about mutual understanding with carefully chosen language on Iraq, Afghanistan and the Israeli-Palestinian standoff, plus blunt talk about the need for Muslims to embrace democracy, women's rights and economic opportunity.

After spending the night at Saudi King Abdullah's horse farm in the desert outside Riyadh, Obama arrived at Egypt's imposing, ornate Qubba Palace on a lush property in the middle of Cairo with nearly two dozen horses leading his motorcade down the wide, palm-lined palace drive.

The U.S. president jogged up the steps to greet his Egyptian counterpart with a handshake and the region's traditional double-cheek kiss. As the two leaders stood on a balcony, a military band in blue dress uniforms played both countries' national anthems.

Later, Obama was delivering his long-promised speech to an audience at Cairo University. His brief stay in the city also was to include a visit to the Sultan Hassan mosque, a 600-year-old center of Islamic worship and study, and a tour of the Great Pyramids of Giza on the capital's outskirts. Aides said the schedule also would afford Obama time to talk to Egyptian journalists and young people.

By the time Obama had arrived, some of Cairo's main thoroughfares, normally packed with cars in the morning rush, were near empty. Many residents chose to stay home rather than try to navigate the sprawling city of 18 million with the heavy traffic restrictions.

The independent newspaper *Al-Dustour* ran a front-page banner headline that read: "Today Obama visits Egypt after evacuating it of Egyptians." Another paper's headline said: "Cairo closed."

Some major streets around areas Obama was visiting were closed to traffic and lined with police in white uniforms and central security forces. Sidewalks and bridges around the airport road and the presidential palace were freshly painted and cleaned. Near the Sultan Hassan mosque, Egyptian authorities moved an entire bus station to keep crowds far away. Traffic police spread flyers to let drivers know which roads were closed.

Even though he's been promising this speech since the election campaign, in recent days Obama has sought to downplay it.

"One speech is not going to solve all the problems in the Middle East," he told a French interviewer. "Expectations should be somewhat modest."

Air France jet likely broke apart above ocean

FERNANDO DE NORONHA, Brazil (AP)—Military planes located new debris from Air France Flight 447 Wednesday while investigators focused on a nightmarish ordeal in which the jetliner broke up over the Atlantic as it flew through a violent storm.

Heavy weather delayed until next week the arrival of deep-water submersibles considered key to finding the black box voice and data recorders that will help answer the question of what happened to the airliner, which disappeared Sunday with 228 people on board. But even with the equipment, the lead French investigator questioned whether the recorders would ever be found in such a deep and rugged part of the ocean.

As the first Brazilian military ships neared the search area, investigators were relying heavily on the plane's automated messages to help reconstruct what happened to the jet as it flew through towering thunderstorms. They detail a series of failures that end with its systems shutting down, suggesting the plane broke apart in the sky, according to an aviation industry official with knowledge of the investigation, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the crash.

The pilot sent a manual signal at 11 p.m. local time saying he was flying through an area of "CBs"—black, electrically charged cumulonimbus clouds that come with violent winds and lightning. Satellite data has shown that towering thunderheads were sending 100 mph (160 kph) updraft winds into the jet's flight path at the time.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Tiananmen 20th anniversary brings new repression

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese police aggressively deterred dissent on Thursday's 20th anniversary of the crackdown on democracy activists in Tiananmen Square, amid calls by Hillary Clinton and even Taiwan's China-friendly president for Beijing to face up to the 1989 violence. An exiled protest leader—famous for publicly haranguing one of China's top leaders 20 years ago—was also blocked from returning home to confront officials over what he called the "June 4 massacre." Foreign journalists were barred from the vast square as uniformed and plainclothes police stood guard across the vast plaza that was the epicenter of the student-led movement that was crushed by the military on the night of June 3-4, 1989.

Reports: US pushing financial sanctions on NKorea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The U.S. is pushing hard to slap strong financial sanctions against North Korea as part of U.N. punishments or even as indepedent measures for the communist nation's latest nuclear test, news reports said Thursday. Meanwhile, two American journalists were to stand trial at North Korea's top court Thursday on charge of entering the country illegally and engaging in "hostile acts." Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency said in a brief dispatch the trial would begin at 3 p.m. (0600 GMT). Some experts believe the North is using the trial and its nuclear and missile tests to strengthen its position in possible talks with the United States, and that it hopes to win concessions or much-needed economic aid.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

OVERSTAYERS REPORT

Friday, June 5, 2009, First Publication
Friday, June 12, 2009, Second Publication

Notice is hereby given that, according to the records maintained by the Commonwealth as of June 1, 2009, the following persons have overstayed the permission granted upon their entry to the Commonwealth for employment purposes. Persons in an overstayer status are required to depart the Commonwealth immediately. Persons who depart the Commonwealth voluntarily are eligible to return; those who are deported are not eligible to return.

Permissions granted upon entry may have been extended or the entry status may be changed under a number of different provisions of the Commonwealth law, but all extensions and changes must be documented and the applicable fees paid. If the necessary applications and supporting document have not been correctly completed, filed, or recorded, a name may appear in overstayer status although an extension may have been granted upon completion or recording of the necessary documentation.

If your name is on the list set out below and you have or should have a current status allowing you to be in the Commonwealth, please report to Dennis Cabrera, Division of Administrative Hearing Office, Second Floor, Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, Saipan, no later than **June 19, 2009**, to correct the records.

Name	LIDS No.
*****, EDRIS	141329
ADELANTAR, RICARDO R	117612
ADONAY, EMME BILLONES	135187
AGUISANDA, FRANCISCO MALANA	311892
ALBARICO, HELEN S	158401
AMZANILLA, REYNALDO C	291887
ARMEA, EDWIN RUBARES	301456
AZURIN, AGELITO C	292688
BALGOA, ARNEL PADAMA	313300
BAQUIRAN, VICENTE BAJANDI	126548
BARBOSA, MILAGROS CESTINA	292175
BAS, ERWINA B	194548
BAUTISTA, EDELYN HEMO	295120
BELARDO, ALIEN DELOS SANTOS	311675
CABAHIT, WILLIAM L,	300511
CABUANG, ESPERANZA G	154110
CACERES, HENRY R	163318
CARIASO, MELWIN CARIASO	294776
CATBAGAN, NESTOR G	132345
CHEN, GENTU	310070
CHEN, RUI LIN	148624
CHEN, WENSHENG	160221
CHEN, ZHANGZHEN	290663
CORPUZ, AURORA AQUINO	297620
CRUZ, ROSABELLA P	145123
CUI, RENSHU	195077
DAI, YANWEI	310752
DAI, YUN XIAN	117501
DAIT, DANILO Q	106227
DE BELEN, SARAH JANE GAN	138025
DE JESUS, ARTURO DELA CRUZ	294777
DELIM, LEILANI ORTIZ	295930
DOMINGO, MARCELINA TOMAS	174623
DONES, EMERITA	104116
EDRA, MIRIAM E	150225
FANG, ZHUFU	284843
FRANCISCO, ELENITA G	103869
FRANCISCO, RODOLFO	113200
GALIDO, GEORGE RANESES	120410
GALLARDO, ALFREDO ESTEPA	121713
GU, SHENG RONG	281218
GULAYAO, ELMA COSMIANO	192242
GUTIERREZ, WILFREDO M	120533
HAN, CHUNYAN	312307
HECHANOVA, AURORA ALKONGA	290395
HUANG, FEICHUAN	302657
HUANG, YAN	136992
INGEL, ROBERT	109646
INOT, RAFAEL JR ACERO	172745
INSEE, MISS SUCHADA	109633
JIANG, XI FENG	156550
JIN, CAIYU	103534
JIN, YINGMIN	298775
K.C., NIRMALA	313072
KANG, BYOUNG DONG	205469
KHOKSEEAMNUAY, NIRUBON	120649
KIM, HYUNG JIN	142887
KUANG, YONGNIAN	297967
LADRINGAN, AVE SAHAGUN	302820

Name	LIDS No.
LAPID, ELMER M	132341
LI, GUOZHEN	152510
LI, SHUQIONG	194233
LI, XUE GUANG	137759
LI, ZHIQIU	137021
LOZANDE, MARIANO L	163021
LU, QINGHE	172946
LUBRICA, GENOVEVA A	160602
LUO, GUOQIANG	292508
MA, ZHIYONG	205266
MAGNO, RONALD A	116931
MANGHNANI, LAXMAN KANHIYA LAL	312963
MANTALA, ARMANDO REVILLA	294999
MIAH, BABUL	128894
MIRAM, REYNALDO M	151826
MONDAL, TARUN KUMAR	126717
MONTEFALCON, ONULIO NAVARRO	295013
NAPITAN, CESAR BAGAYNA	111380
NARTEA, REYNALDO SAMPAGA	299895
NGITIYEB, ZAIDA M	110384
PEREZ, MARINETTE AGUILAR	311850
PINEDA, JESUS P	109434
PINZON, ESTHER JO CARIAGA	190692
POTOT, GLENDA CASTILLO	312521
PRADO, MARCIANO DLC	194068
RANIT, JUANITO BRESTOL	173330
REPATO, VIOLETA S	146309
REYES, MARBIN PALOMAR	286521
SAGUCIO, OSCAR O	201281
SANTOS, ANGELITO B	150282
SANTOS, BERNABE TORRES	193103
SHEN, HEFAN	190500
SOBERANO, CAROLYN L	103199
SUMILANG, ROMEO S	112850
SUN, DANDAN	298501
SUN, SHUQING	148734
TABO, HERMINIGILDO B	147015
TANAKA, YUJI	310288
TUMARONG, HONELYN PAUTAN	312956
TUVIDA, AMALIA T	154298
VEGA, NASSAR ARCAN	101434
VIESCA, LEONILO GONZALES	200024
VILLANUEVA, MARIO E	157510
WANG, JU	303039
XIE, YULING	312308
YABUT, MARLYN REYES	112515
YAN, HAIYAN	194021
YAO, DONG HUA	281201
YIN, YUZHEN	312306
ZHANG, JINJU	302413
ZHANG, WEILIN	281084
ZHAO, MINGYAO	102332
ZHAO, YANG	287973
ZHENG, FENG LIN	127875
ZHENG, LI	291191
ZHOU, JIANFANG	298221
ZHOU, WEI	200028
ZHU, LIJU	201084
ZONG, SHIFANG	157955

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-DEQ-098

SUBMISSION: JUNE 23, 2009 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"DEVELOPMENT OF THE CNMI BROWNFIELDS VOLUNTARY RESPONSE PROGRAM GUIDANCE DOCUMENT AND PROGRAM FORMS FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE DEQ OFFICE LOCATED IN THE GUALO RAI CENTER BUILDING, SAIPAN, OR ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL TO raymasga@deq.gov.mp.

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FROM **1:00 P.M., JUNE 10, 2009** IN THE 2ND FLOOR DEQ CONFERENCE ROOM. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE SUBMITTED BY FACSIMILE TO **MR. RAY MASGA, MANAGER SITE ASSESTMENT AND REMEDIATION BRANCH**, AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL AT raymasga@deq.gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS **JUNE 12, 2009.**

/s/ **FRANK M. RABAULIMAN**
DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-DOC-105

SUBMISSION: JUNE 29, 2009 • TIME: 4:00 P.M.

"PROJECT MANAGERS TO MANAGE PROJECTS FUNDED THROUGH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA)"

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. MICHAEL ADA, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE VIA E-MAIL TO depcommerce.ada@gmail.com OR FAX TO (670) 664-3067 NO LATER THAN **4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, JUNE 18, 2009.**

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERECED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **MICHAEL ADA**
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-DOC-106

SUBMISSION: JUNE 29, 2009 • TIME: 4:00 P.M.

"GRANT WRITERS FOR PURPOSES OF PURSUING FUNDING AVAILABLE THROUGH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA)"

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. MICHAEL ADA, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE VIA E-MAIL TO depcommerce.ada@gmail.com OR FAX TO (670) 664-3067 NO LATER THAN **4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, JUNE 18, 2009.**

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERECED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **MICHAEL ADA**
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW09-IFB-019

PUERTO RICO DUMP FINAL CLOSURE SAIPAN, MP

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Division of Solid Waste Management, are soliciting sealed Bids for construction, of the Puerto Rico Dump closure system, on the island of Saipan.

The project package will be available on or after May 27, 2009, at Pacific Quick Print & Post, Chalan Pale Arnold, SAipan. A non-refundable payment to Pacific Quick Print & Post, amount to be determined, is required for each set. All interested bidders are also required to include an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid package. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, however, Article 7 "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 **is not available** to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and serivices on this project shall be paid the current minimum wage as required by CNMI and Federal Law.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on June 5, 2009, 10:0 a.m. local time at the Solid Waste Management Division's Lower Base Transfer Station, Lower Base.. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site and condition of the project. All questions regarding the project must be submitted in writing no later than June 10, 2009 to **Mr. Blas T. Mafnas,** Acting Director, Solid Waste Management Division, Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station, or fax to (670) 322-2762.

Sealed bids shall be marked with the name of the submitter and the title "**Puerto Rico Dump Final Closure, DPW-09-IFB-019"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and six (6) copies of Bids must be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, June 22, 2009 to the Director of Procurement and Supply, P.O. Box 10008, Cnmi, Saipan, MP 96950. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than June 22, 2009 and must be transmitted via Facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or va e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and six (6) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 22, 2009, and must be received no later than July 1, 2009. Failure to submit the required number of sets may be gount for rejection.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, July 2, 2009, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on June 22, 2009.

A bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Clerk or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". For Bid Bonds, surety companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Department of the Treasury as an acceptable surety to the Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment Bonds must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Department of the Treasury as an acceptable surety and must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI.

Performance time for completion of the project is three hundred sixty five **(365)** working days upon issuance of official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will assessed as provided for in the Bid Specification Package.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs (DOI/OIA). Contract award is contingent upon funding approval of DOI/OIA.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement and Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW09-IFB-021

RENOVATION OF SAN ISIDRO BEACH PARK PHASE II, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Work; (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Renovation of San Isidro Beach Park Phase II, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after May 22, 2009 at DPW Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor-Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to One Hundred Dollars **(US$ 100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Bidding procuredures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per **Public Law 15-95 and as further Amended by Public Law 15-118** and must be submitted with the BID or PROPOSAL if preference is claimed.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on June 10, 2009, 1:00 p.m. local time at the project site located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on June 16, 2009 to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos Jr., Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd floor-Joeten Commercial Building Oleai Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked "**DPW09-IFB.021**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 1:00 p.m, local time, June 19, 2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 1:00 p.m. local time June 19, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to **procurement@pticom.com.** For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 19, 2009, and must be received no later than June 30, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 1:00 p.m. local time, July 03, 2009. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 1:00 p.m. local time, on, June 24, 2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **A Surety company shall hold the certificate of authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.** This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 14660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is Ninety (**90**) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at one hundred dollars (**US$100.00**) per working days for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in The best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW09-IFB-022

Supply, Delivery and Installation of Emergency Generator and Water Storage Tank for the Division of Medical Supply Office, Lower Base, Saipan.

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the ***Supply, Delivery and Installation of Emergency Generator and Water Storage Tank for the Division of Medical Supply Office,*** Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

The project package will be available on or after May 22, 2009, at Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars **(US$100.00)**, is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. **Preference is available to US Citizen as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, and be submitted with the BID is preference is claimed.**

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on June 09 2009, 9:30 a.m. local time at the DPW Conference Room, Gualo Rai, Joeten Commercial B]dg. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on June 12, 2009 to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr.** Director of Technical Services Division, Oleai Commercial Building, Saipan or fax to (670) 322-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW09-IFB-022"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 17, 2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 17, 2009 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com.

For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 17, 2009, and must be received no later than June 26, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:30 a.m. local time, June 30, 2009, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on June 22, 2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority (COA) from the D.S Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.** Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

This project is funded through Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Grant.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred and Twenty **(120)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One hundred dollars **(US$100.00)** per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement and Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW09-IFB-024

Supply, Delivery and Installation of Emergency Generators for WIC Clinic and Administration Building, Phase I, Navy Hill

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the ***Supply, Delivery and Installation of Emergency Generator for WIC Clinic and Administration Building, Phase I,*** Navy Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

The project package will be available on or after May 22, 2009, at Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars **(US$100.00)**, is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. **Preference is available to US Citizen as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, and be submitted with the BID is preference is claimed.**

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on June 09 2009, 10:30 a.m. local time at the DPW Conference Room, Gualo Rai, Joeten Commercial B]dg. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on June 12, 2009 to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr.** Director of Technical Services Division, Oleai Commercial Building, Saipan or fax to (670) 322-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW09-IFB-024"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 17, 2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 17, 2009 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com.

For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 17, 2009, and must be received no later than June 26, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, June 30, 2009, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on June 22, 2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority (COA) from the D.S Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.** Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

This project is funded through Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Grant.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred and Twenty **(120)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One hundred dollars **(US$100.00)** per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement and Supply

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

NH man arrested for the 153rd time to plead guilty

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. (AP)—A man has been arrested for the 153rd time, this time after he was accused of punching someone in the face over the weekend. Paul Baldwin, 49, told a judge Monday he plans to plead guilty to the assault, along with trespassing and alcohol charges. He said he's had a long battle with alcohol and was trying to correct the problem during his most recent one-year jail term, which ended last week. The Foster's Daily Democrat newspaper said Baldwin's record dates to 1984 and includes 152 other arrests, eight trespass orders, 75 citations, four Social Security aliases and 17 name aliases. Prosecutor Rena DiLando said she didn't have time to read Baldwin's full criminal record because it's so long.

In Memory of

Father Gary J. Bradley, S.J.

October 21, 1946 - June 4, 2000

Former Pastor of Kristo Rai Parish
Vicar General of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa

One's earthly life—has no harbor, it has no shore, like the ocean tide it rushes on and carries us with it. Life—time—and tide wait for no one. Leaving each of us to enjoy each fugitive hour. Some have said of the departed that it's only a change of worlds on a journey between eternities to that destination from which no traveler returns. There is no way of ever knowing where life will take us—or where death will find us. Time and death—not unlike the space between the stars—are the fleeting ingredients of minute fragments which make up us all. Time alone offers the mystery that the human mind will never solve. We will never comprehend eternity and infinity. That they are the same—remains an enigma. May God bless and keep you Father Gary.

Ann and Bill Stewart & Kathryn McDonald

Pa. school board upholds eyebrow shaver expulsion

PENN HILLS, Pa. (AP)—A Pittsburgh-area school board has upheld the expulsion of a 15-year-old middle school student who was found to have an eyebrow shaver in her handbag during a random search. The Penn Hills School Board on Tuesday voted 8-1 to uphold the expulsion recommended last month by officials at Linton Middle School. As a result, the 15-year-old teen will remain expelled for the rest of this year and 45 days next year. She'll be eligible to receive in-home instruction or other alternatives. The teen said she doesn't consider the eyebrow trimmer a weapon, but school officials say it is essentially a razor. The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported one school board member cut her finger on the device at a private meeting Tuesday and required stitches.

Mass. company lists cadavers among its assets

MANSFIELD, Mass. (AP)—A bankrupt Massachusetts medical device maker left behind some gruesome assets when it shut down earlier this year. Innovative Spinal Technologies lists nine human bodies, including "eight previously used" cadavers, among its property in a federal bankruptcy filing. Federal bankruptcy trustee Warren Agin told The Sun Chronicle of Attleboro that the bodies are frozen in the company's former headquarters and do not pose a public health threat. He said arrangements for proper disposal are being made. The Mansfield-based company made tools for minimally invasive back surgery, and the bodies are kept in an area where doctors were trained to use the devices. The company shut down in February and filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy last month.

Man admits robbing 6 banks—all on Thursdays

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—If it's Thursday, it's time to rob a bank. That was the schedule followed by a man who admitted robbing six New Jersey banks on consecutive Thursdays between late January and early March. Peter Bielecke pleaded guilty Wednesday in federal court to a single count of bank robbery, but admitted he robbed five others as well. The 41-year-old said he robbed banks in Brick, Toms River, Lakewood, Howell and Old Bridge on successive Thursdays. No reason was given for choosing that particular day of the week, but authorities said the pattern made it that much easier to track him. He was arrested after a March 5 robbery in Old Bridge. He faces up to 20 years in prison when he is sentenced Aug. 25.

Ill. dad, daughter arrested after fight over shoes

GRANITE CITY, Ill. (AP)—Authorities said an argument over a pair of shoes led to criminal charges against a southwestern Illinois woman and her dad. Prosecutors charged the 24-year-old woman with criminal property damage, while her 47-year-old dad was accused of aggravated battery. Madison County Sheriff's Capt. Brad Wells said the daughter invited three people from a bar to her home early Monday, and an argument erupted over a pair of shoes. Wells said the father intervened, clubbing one of the guests over the head with a flashlight. Outside, the woman allegedly broke a window on one guest's vehicle. The father told media that the guests refused his request to leave and that he hit one visitor only after he was punched.

Police: Woman rams 81-year-old scam victim's car

HERNANDO, Miss. (AP)—Authorities said Bessie Lou Phillips was so mad her brother was sentenced to life in prison for scamming an elderly woman she followed the victim and rammed her car. Phillips, 42, was charged Tuesday with attempted aggravated assault after the unidentified victim was rammed. Police said Phillips is the sister of 41-year-old Manuel Cooper, who had just been sentenced to life without parole for obtaining money under false pretenses. Hernando Police Chief Mike Riley said Phillips followed the victim from the courthouse "then used her car to ram the car of the victim." Riley said bond for Phillips was set at $150,000.

In Loving Memory

†BERNADITA DELA CRUZ ATALIG MANGLONA

July 30, 1935 – May 30, 2009

Bernadita A. Manglona of Rota, wife of **Prudencio Taisacan Manglona** and mother of

Vincent & Benita (Dean, Donovan, MaryAnn [Devan], Bernadita, Priscilla),
Paul & Lydia (Deanna, Paul Jr., Denn, Pauline),
John & Ramona (Dencio, Savana),
Charles & Lorna (Mark [Esme'], Craig, Donald, Oliver, Charlene),
Priscilla & William S. Torres (Nicole, Verne, William, Karena Lei, Duane),
†**Roy**,
†**Francisco** (Norma Mae [Aleina Dee] and Carlo),
Prudencio Jr. & Sharon (Chanelle, Prudencio IV, Vincent, Alana, Roy, Deon),
†**Norma Mae**, and
Thomas (Sirena [Dravin], Mona, Thomas II, Samantha), and
reared children **Rosie A. & Patrick M. Ogo, and Julie O. & Ross S. Manglona,**

passed away at Queens Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii on May 30, 2009.

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her brothers, sisters, and in-laws:
Antonio DlC. & Maria S. Atalig, Dolores A. Cabrera, Teresita A. & Juan M. Barcinas, Vinancio DlC. & Maria Q. Atalig, Baltazar DlC. & Dolores C. Atalig, Blas DlC. & Mariquita Atalig, Antonio T. & Engracia O. Manglona, Benjamin T. & Maria R. Manglona, and Maria M. Celis

In her new life, she joins her parents and parents-in-law:
†Vicente Mendiola Atalig & †Josefa Dela Cruz Atalig, and †Prudencio Mendiola Manglona & †Maria Taisacan Manglona,

and in-laws: †Dionicio Ch. Cabrera, †Magdalena M. Manglona, and reared brother-in-law †Augustin M. Celis

She is also survived by numerous godchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Daily mass is being offered at **6:00 a.m.** at San Francisco de Borja Church, Mt. Carmel Cathedral, and Kristo Rai Church, and at **7:00 p.m.** at San Isidro Church in Rota. Rosary is being prayed at San Francisco de Borja Church at **7:30 p.m.**

On **Tuesday, June 9, 2009,** the responso, rosary, and viewing will begin at **7:15 a.m.**, and the mass of Christian burial will be at **11:00 a.m.** at San Francisco de Borja Church in Songsong, Rota. Interment will follow immediately at the San Jose Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers. Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Prudencio T. Manglona and Family

Life & Style

Woman sues comedian over 'Bruno' skirmish

LANCASTER, Calif. (AP)—Sacha Baron Cohen's new movie is already getting the same sort of buzz and legal backlash that came with his last hit. This time, though, a woman is alleging injuries far beyond just a bruised ego or reputation.

Richelle Olson sued the 37-year-old actor-comedian and NBC Universal on May 22, claiming an incident at a charity bingo tournament that was filmed for the upcoming "Bruno" left her disabled.

Olson claims she was severely injured after struggling with Baron Cohen and his film crew at the event in Palmdale, Calif., two years ago. The lawsuit states she now needs a wheelchair or cane to move around.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages of more than $25,000.

Phone and e-mail messages left with publicists for Baron Cohen and NBC Universal weren't returned Wednesday.

His 2006 film "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan" produced numerous lawsuits by people claiming they were duped and humiliated by his antics. A New York judge last year threw out claims by a driving instructor and two etiquette teachers after determining they signed agreements releasing filmmakers from liability.

It was unclear whether the incident involving Olson will appear in "Bruno." The lawsuit mentions contracts that Olson apparently signed, but claim they were entered under "duress" and included several misrepresentations.

AP

In this Jan. 15, 2007 file photo, Sacha Baron Cohen is shown in Beverly Hills, Calif.

"Borat" was a surprise box-office hit, earning more than $125 million in the United States.

In "Bruno," scheduled for release July 10, Baron Cohen plays a flamboyantly gay Austrian fashionista. Much like in "Borat," Baron Cohen's humor depends on cajoling people to let him into events and he then tapes their reactions to his outlandish behavior.

The character is already making a splash—a sketch during Sunday's MTV Video Music awards had Bruno dropping onto Eminem with his crotch placed in the rapper's face. It became the show's most talked-about moment.

Olson's lawsuit contends Baron Cohen has 30 sham companies that help him pull off his ruses and that is how the comedian and his camera crew gained entry into the Desert Valley Charities' bingo tournament in May 2007.

Baron Cohen was invited to the event because his handlers identified him as a "celebrity" who was filming a documentary on bingo, the suit states. The event was to raise money for nursing students.

According to the lawsuit, Baron Cohen—in character as Bruno—started using vulgarities while calling the second bingo game in front of a mostly elderly audience.

A struggle ensued after Olson tried to grab the microphone away from Baron Cohen. She claims he then called his camera crew over, who attacked her for at least a minute, hoping to "create a dramatic emotional response."

Olson's suit states she ran from the stage and was found moments later by a co-worker, sobbing uncontrollably. She then fell to the floor, hitting her head on a concrete slab.

The suit states she suffered brain bleeding as a result.

The lawsuit, filed in Lancaster about 70 miles north of downtown Los Angeles, was first reported by celebrity gossip Web site TMZ.

Itzhak Perlman performs with Venezuela's Dudamel

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman is performing with Venezuela's top young musicians and says he is impressed by their spirit and intensity.

Perlman said Wednesday that he was moved by the experience of playing with Venezuelan conductor Gustavo Dudamel and his Simon Bolivar Youth Symphony Orchestra during their first of two concerts in Caracas this week.

"What's absolutely fantastic is the intensity of the musical involvement of all the young people in the orchestra," Perlman said. "It's a pleasure for me to look at them and see how they're involved in what they're doing."

The excitement, he said, is "unavoidable" when performing with Dudamel, the 28-year-old who debuts in October as musical director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Dudamel's fame in the classical music world has also drawn increasing attention to the network of orchestras he came from: the National System of Youth and Children's Orchestras of Venezuela.

"The System," as it's known here, was founded in 1975 by economist, musician and former congressman Jose Antonio Abreu, who believed all children should have access to a quality musical education.

Since then, it has grown to include 150 youth orchestras and 70 children's orchestras—more than 250,000 students across the nation—and has been a model for similar programs in countries from Brazil to Britain.

Later this month, Dudamel will conduct Venezuela's youth orchestra along with cellist Yo-Yo Ma in Caracas.

Dudamel also said he liked a recent suggestion from Peruvian opera tenor Juan Diego Florez that they hold a joint concert in Peru's ancient Inca citadel of Machu Picchu, calling it a "wonderful idea." Dudamel said such performances can help in "spreading the message of the System."

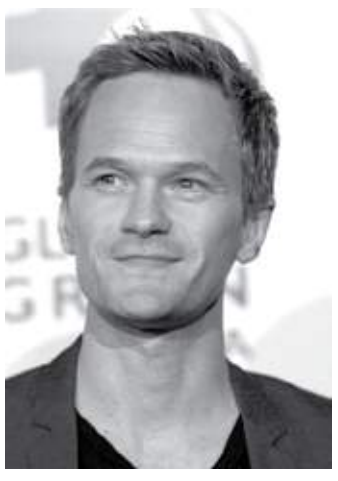
Neil Patrick Harris gets ready as 2009 Tony host

NEW YORK (AP)—Ask Neil Patrick Harris how he sees his job as host of the 2009 Tony Awards, and the star of TV's "How I Met Your Mother" says judiciously, "ringmaster at the circus—I want to be strong enough to earn your trust but be able to allow all the specialty acts to shine."

And this year's ceremony, televised live Sunday by CBS (8-11 p.m. EDT) from Radio City Music Hall, is packed with enough entertainment to keep its host very busy indeed.

Star performances will be abundant: from Elton John and the cast of "Billy Elliot" to Dolly Parton and the folks from "9 to 5." Eclectic, too: from Liza Minnelli to the 1980s hair-metal band Poison celebrating with the cast of "Rock of Ages." Plus, of course, scenes from the nominated best musicals and best musical revivals.

And we haven't even gotten to the list of celebrity presenters that will include such names as Nicole Kidman, Anne Hathaway, David Hyde Pierce, Jessica Lange, Frank Langella and Kevin Spacey. When will there be time for thank-you speeches?



AP

In this Feb. 19, 2009 file photo, Neil Patrick Harris arrives at Global Green's 6th Annual Pre-Oscar party in Los Angeles.

"I certainly never thought this would be in the cards," Harris says of his Sunday gig. "All of a sudden it came into my world, and I was ecstatic. It's the biggest night on Broadway and to be able to helm the ship is amazing. I get an all-access pass. It will be the best seat in the house."

Harris comes to the Tony job with some experience. He had good notices hosting the 2009 TV Land Awards in April and he's done similar work for the Writers Guild, various magic organizations (Harris is a magic buff) and the Ovation Awards, Los Angeles' theater prizes.

BT McNicholl, who put Harris into the Roundabout Theatre Company revival of "Cabaret" in 2003, says Harris' interest in magic will help the actor with his Tony duties.

"Neil is a first-rate magician," says McNicholl, associate director of "Cabaret."

"And I think the timing and concentration that are required of people who successfully practice sleight of hand has served him well in the theater. He knows how to keep an audience's attention and focus it in all the right ways. Plus Neil has a very warm and appealing presence, not to mention a sense of comic timing that goes back to the greats of yesteryear. It's in his bones."

For those who only know the 35-year-old Harris as the womanizing Barney Stinson on his current CBS sitcom or from his breakout TV role as "Doogie Howser, M.D.," the actor's theater career may come as a surprise.

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Land of the Lost

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:45
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:45
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Mon thru Thurs		4:00	7:00	

Will Farrell, Anna Friel
Adventure, Family, Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Has-been scientist Dr. Rick Marshall, is a man with no weapons, few skills and questionable smarts who must survive an alternate universe full of marauding dinosaurs and fantastic creatures from beyond our world. Marshall has been sucked through a space-time vortex to a place of spectacular sights known as the Land of the Lost. Coming along with him for the adventure are crack-smart research assistant Holly and a redneck souvenirist named Will.

The Hangover

Friday		4:30	7:25	9:30
Saturday	1:25	4:30	7:25	9:30
Sunday	1:25	4:30	7:25	
Mon thru Thurs		4:30	7:25	

Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms
Comedy • Rated R

Synopsis

Two days before his wedding, Doug and his three buddies drive to Vegas for a blow-out night they'll never forget. But when the three groomsmen wake up the next morning with pounding headaches, they can't remember a thing. Their posh hotel suite is beyond trashed and the groom is nowhere to be found. With no clue of what happened and little time to spare, the trio must attempt to retrace their bad decisions from

★ ★ ★

Up

Friday		4:05	7:10	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:10	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:10	
Mon thru Thurs		4:05	7:10	

Ed Asner, Jordan Nagai
Comedy, Adventure, Family • Rated PG

Synopsis

Carl Fredricksen is a 78 year old balloon salesman who finally fulfills his lifelong dream of a great adventure when he ties thousands of balloons to his house and flies away to the wilds of South America. But he discovers all too late that his biggest nightmare has stowed away on the trip—an overly optimistic 8-year-old Wilderness Explorer named Russell.

Terminator Salvation

Friday		4:15	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:10	4:15	7:30	10:00
Sunday	1:10	4:15	7:30	
Mon thru Thurs		4:15	7:30	

Christian Bale, Sam Worthington
Action, Sci-Fi • Rated PG 13

Drag Me To Hell

Friday		4:25	7:20	9:55
Saturday	1:30	4:25	7:20	9:55
Sunday	1:30	4:25	7:20	
Mon thru Thurs		4:25	7:20	

Alison Lohman, Justin Long
Drama, Thriller, Horror • Rated PG 13

Angels and Demons

Friday		4:20	7:05	9:50
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:05	9:50
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:05	
Mon thru Thurs		4:20	7:05	

Tom Hanks, Ewan McGregor
Thriller, Religion • Rated PG 13

Night at the Museum 2

Friday		4:10	7:15	9:40
Saturday	1:15	4:10	7:15	9:40
Sunday	1:15	4:10	7:15	
Mon thru Thurs		4:10	7:15	

Den Stiller, Amy Adams
Comedy, Sequel • Rated PG

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Paris Hilton bringing her reality series to Dubai

NEW YORK (AP)—Dubai is synonymous with glitz and excess—but can the Middle Eastern hotspot handle the likes of Paris Hilton?

The fame-loving heiress is about to make her first trip to Dubai. The city, located in the United Arab Emirates, will be the location for an upcoming edition of her reality series "Paris Hilton's My New BFF."

Producer Michael Hirschorn said Wednesday that filming will begin later this month and last some three weeks. The finale will be filmed in Los Angeles.

Hirschorn said the show—and Hilton—will respect the culture of the region, and will be "walked through in great detail what is expected" and allowed.

Casting is under way to find contestants to compete for the chance to be Hilton's new best friend forever—or BFF.

Hilton, 28, wants to expand her brand in the Arab world, said Hirschorn.

He said the plan is to build "My New BFF" into a global franchise, with Hilton searching for BFFs around the world. Hilton previously filmed two seasons in Los Angeles for MTV and one in London for British television. The second season of the American edition premiered Tuesday.

The Dubai version is "intended for broadcast throughout the Arab region, so it will be sold to networks throughout that area," said Hirschorn. "The hope is to sell it internationally, (in) Europe and Asia and the United States if possible."

No air date has been set, he said.

This time, Hilton will bring her boyfriend, Doug Reinhardt.

"She's very aware that she's not going to be going and pointing fingers and laughing at anybody," Hirschorn said. "She's gonna be respectful. But also, if anything, (she) will be poking fun at herself. I think some of the comedy will come out of the learning about the dress and the behavior."

AP

Paris Hilton and Doug Reinhardt arrive at the MTV Movie Awards on Sunday May 31, 2009, in Universal City, Calif.

Report: Jon Gosselin says his 8 kids are happy

NEW YORK (AP)—Jon Gosselin says there's no truth to reports that his eight children have been hurt by the family's reality TV series.

Both Gosselin and his wife, Kate, have drawn tabloid fire as the couple, their 8-year-old twins and 5-year-old sextuplets continue to appear on the TLC network's "Jon & Kate Plus 8."

Last week, Pennsylvania's Labor Department said it was launching a probe to see if the hit show is complying with child labor laws. (TLC said it "fully complies" with state laws and regulations.)

Gosselin rejects the idea that his children are being exploited by the TV production.

"I don't even want to use that word, because I think it's ridiculous," he told People magazine. "We have healthy, happy, well-adjusted, educated kids. They're bouncing around and having a good time."

Jon and Kate have reportedly cheated on each other. They deny those allegations, while acknowledging their marriage is struggling in the media glare.

"I think all parents, and anyone who is married, are always going to have times when you're upset with someone," Jon said. "This is a reality show, so you're going to see real emotion."

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Eminem 'thrilled' about pulling off Bruno stunt

NEW YORK (AP)—Eminem says he knew full well what he was about to face at the MTV Movie Awards—including Sacha Baron Cohen's bare butt. Eminem told the Web site RapRadar.com that the much-talked about stunt was all rehearsed, right down to Eminem's mock disgust. Says the rapper: "I'm thrilled that we pulled this off better than we rehearsed it." Eminem says when he left the show, he went back to his hotel and laughed for three hours, including as he watched the playback. The rapper calls himself a "big fan" of Baron Cohen, who he said approached him about the gag while he was in Europe. At Sunday's live show, the comedian descended from the ceiling on a wire in a fake mishap that ended with his bare hindquarters in Eminem's face.

Joe Jonas boogies to Beyonce to promote new album

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Watch out, Beyonce. Joe Jonas is stealing your dance moves. In the latest "Single Ladies" spoof, the middle Jonas brother tries to crib the diva's dance style in a new online video. Wearing a black catsuit and matching high heels, Jonas meagerly attempts a few moves while half lip-synching to the hit song. His brothers and band mates, Nick and Kevin, are shown at the beginning of the video prodding him to perform, saying, "You have to do it." The Jonas Brothers fourth album, "Lines, Vines and Trying Times" is set for release June 16.

Lawsuit filed over Sonny & Cher payments

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Cher has sued Universal Music Group, claiming the company owes her and Sonny Bono's heirs more than $5 million. The lawsuit filed Tuesday in Santa Monica claims Cher and Bono's widow and children are owed royalties on songs that were included in recent greatest-hits compilations. The suit also states UMG has failed to provide key records that would show how much is actually owed. UMG spokesman Peter LoFrumento (Lo-FROO'-men-toe) says the lawsuit is "without merit" and the company expects to win in court. Bono and Cher were married for nearly 10 years before divorcing; their daughter Chastity stands to receive some of the royalties if the suit prevails. Bono later became a U.S. congressman and died in a skiing accident in 1998.

McCartney to sing at New York Mets stadium in July

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Mets are inviting an old friend to play at their new stadium. But not just any old friend—Sir Paul McCartney. The music legend will perform the first concerts at Citi Field on July 17 and 18. In a statement, McCartney says he's excited to be the first to play the stadium, and he's "really looking forward to a buzzing show." The 66-year-old former Beatle was a surprise guest last summer for Billy Joel's concert at Shea Stadium. The previous home of the Mets—shut down to make way for Citi Field—was also where the Beatles performed for a sold-out crowd of screaming fans in 1965.

'Perfect Storm' fisherman convicted in Canada

ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland (AP)—Maine fisherman and author Linda Greenlaw, who survived the nor'easter that was the basis for the book and movie "The Perfect Storm," has been convicted on charges of illegally fishing in Canadian waters. Greenlaw was convicted May 30 in provincial court in St. John's. She'll be sentenced Tuesday. The 48-year-old Greenlaw was arrested in September when her vessel crossed Canada's 200-mile limit. The prosecution is seeking a fine of $50,000 Canadian dollars ($45,000), plus catch seized. The defense is recommending a lesser fine. Greenlaw was the last person in contact with the Andrea Gail, a swordfish boat out of Gloucester, Mass., that sank with all hands during the 1991 storm. Actress Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio portrayed her in the 2000 movie.

Detroit Symphony gets $1M to boost fundraising

DETROIT (AP)—The Ford Foundation is boosting the struggling Detroit Symphony Orchestra with a three-year, $1 million grant to help expand its donor base. The money from the New York-based foundation will support the symphony's fundraising and marketing initiatives based around music director Leonard Slatkin. Symphony President Anne Parsons tells the Detroit Free Press that Ford foundation officials see the symphony "going in the right direction." The symphony has seen its donations fall, endowment shrink and ticket sales soften. It has had layoffs, pay cuts and canceled programs this year.

Woman who loves working resents talk of retirement

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm in my mid-60s and still work full-time. I love my work, not only because it pays well, but also for the good times I have with co-workers and the intellectual stimulation I get from solving problems. I also feel younger than my age. That may be because I have a purpose in life—to get up early every morning, take my shower, put on my makeup and hurry to the office. At the end of the day, I feel fulfilled because I know I have done something worthwhile.

My problem is the tactless people who ask me when I'm going to retire. Sometimes I tell them that they will be the first to know if I decide to do so. Someone even told me that I should retire now "so I can begin to enjoy my life"! I told her I don't have to retire to enjoy my life because I enjoy my life every day.

I don't know what their motives are in asking. At times I become so annoyed that I just look at the person and give a sweet smile—just to shut him/her up. I don't want to be rude, but now and then I feel like telling them that it's none of their business. Abby, what is the best response to give these busybodies?

IRRITATED OUT WEST

DEAR IRRITATED: Give the person your standard "sweet smile" and say: "To me, retirement is a dirty word. Please don't use it in front of me again."

DEAR ABBY: My daughter-in-law has been trying to get my son out of his tighty-whiteys for a few years now. He has gained a few pounds and they are just a little too tight. He isn't overweight, but men's underwear makers don't make in-between sizes. She has bought him a larger size, but he refuses to wear them.

Do you have any ideas on how to get him out of—so to speak—his tighty-whiteys and into something more flattering? By the way, I am not a meddling mother-in-law, but my daughter-in-law was too embarrassed to write.

NOT A MEDDLER

DEAR NOT A MEDDLER: One way to accomplish it might be for your daughter-in-law to occasionally mention how "hot" your son would look in something else. If that doesn't work, she should just continue to feed him the way she has been—and when the tighty-whiteys cut off his circulation, he may decide to get out of them himself.

DEAR ABBY: I had what I thought was a good friend, "Meg." We were part of a larger group that was very close. When my husband left me, Meg disappeared from my life.

I carried on with career, family and friends, and I am now remarried. My new husband is charming, affluent and well-known in our community. Now Meg has suddenly reappeared and behaves like her absence over the last four years never happened. I am sure she wants to be a part of our inner circle because of my husband's success.

When I encounter her socially, I am always cordial. I have politely declined her overtures and invitations, but she doesn't seem to get the hint. What can I say to nip this in the bud? I don't want to be rude, nor do I want to keep making excuses.

TIRED OF HYPOCRISY

DEAR TIRED OF HYPOCRISY: What's wrong with telling your fair-weather friend the truth? You don't have to be mean about it. Just say that when she disappeared from your life, you went on with yours, you understand that life can take people down different paths, and you wish her well on hers.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby -- Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

POOF POOF POOF POOF POOF
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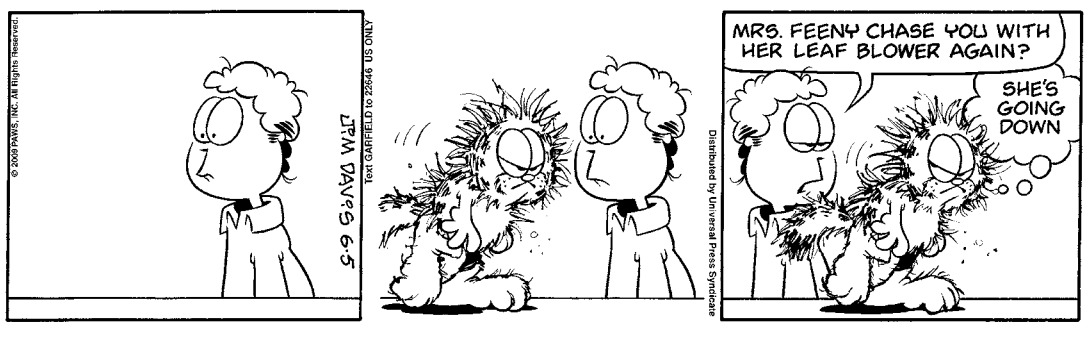
OK, (POOF)... I THINK WE'VE GOT ENOUGH OF A HEAD START. WE CAN REST A MINUTE.
DO YOU THINK YOUR MOM HAS SEEN THE CAR BY NOW?
PROBABLY. SHE'S PROBABLY CALLED DAD AT WORK, AND HE'S PROBABLY ON HIS WAY HOME NOW!
6/5

Garfield®

By Jim Davis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JIM DAVIS 6-5
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
MRS. FEENY CHASE YOU WITH HER LEAF BLOWER AGAIN?
SHE'S GOING DOWN

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

SO HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SETTLE YOUR BILL?
DO YOU TAKE POST DATED CHECKS?
WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO, BUT I GUESS IT'S OKAY.
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The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

COUGH...SNORT... SPLURT...SNORT... HACK
©2009 GLENN MCCOY Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
BOY, I HOPE NONE OF THE POOL HOTTIES SAW ME GAGGING ON WATER. THAT WOULD BE WAY EMBARRASSING!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

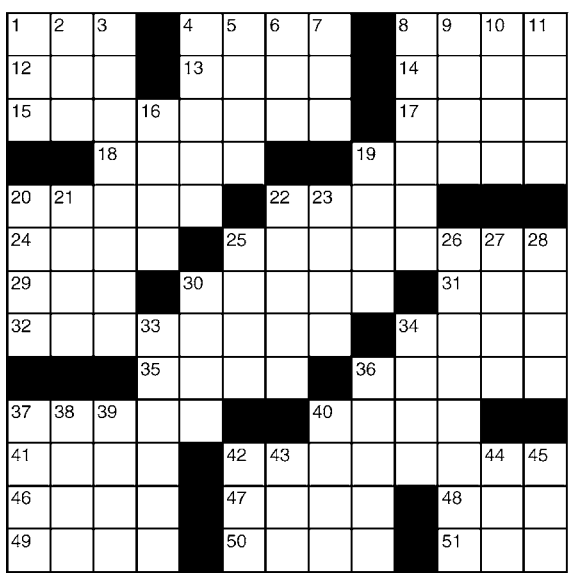
ACROSS
1 Pouch
4 Heroic legend
8 Liniment target
12 "I" strain?
13 Spring phenomenon
14 Burden
15 Muse of heroic poetry
17 Ilk
18 Unctuous
19 Fine mate?
20 Bender
22 Author Bellow
24 Jackie Paper's pal
25 Nymph changed into Ursa Major
29 Outback bird
30 Bad investment, maybe
31 Tend the lawn
32 "Minnie the Moocher" singer
34 Hot dog holder
35 "— Lang Syne"
36 Combines resources
37 Cancel out
40 Right on the map?
41 Way out, maybe
42 Dirty Harry's last name
46 Initial stake
47 Church section
48 Caustic solution
49 Repast
50 Oboist's sliver
51 Evergreen variety

DOWN
1 Moment
2 — Khan
3 Striking, in a way
4 Subway entrance
5 "Hi, sailor!"
6 Space
7 Shock partner
8 Base
9 Quarter, e.g.
10 Full house or flush
11 Vortex
16 Willingly, once
19 As called for
20 Detail, for short
21 Cougar
22 Dieter's entree
23 "— McBeal"
25 Part of a Batsuit
26 Without interruption
27 Turnpike fee
28 They give a hoot
30 Out of bounds
33 Crown of honor
34 Parks of civil rights fame
36 Lost ruddiness
37 Leading man?
38 Zilch
39 Part of N.B.
40 Otherwise
42 Ford or Lincoln
43 Mimic
44 Nay undoer
45 Fresh

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	K	I	M		A	L	L		E	M	I	R		
T	O	N	I		B	O	O		L	I	L	Y		
A	L	A	R		E	G	G		I	S	L	E		
B	A	N	A	N	A		I	H	O	P				
			C	O	M	I	C	S	T	R	I	P		
O	R	A	L	S		V	A	T		I	D	O		
D	I	V	E		P	A	L		K	N	E	W		
D	O	E		G	U	N		P	I	T	A	S		
S	T	R	I	P	M	A	L	L	S					
		S	N	A	P		O	Y	S	T	E	R		
B	A	I	L		K	I	A		O	R	E	O		
A	L	O	E		I	O	N		F	E	L	T		
G	E	N	T		N	U	S		F	E	S	S		

Yesterday's answer 6-5



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mark Wahlberg, 38; Brian McKnight, 40; Ken Follett, 60; Bill Moyers, 75

Happy Birthday: You can expect to face some interesting changes professionally. Don't take chances with your personal, professional or financial situation. Steadfastness will determine how well you will do in the future. Be practical professionally and passionate with the ones you love. That balance will achieve what's important. Your numbers are 3, 15, 22, 28, 31, 39, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Take things in stride, settle down and refrain from being pushy if you want to be treated with respect. Consider making some personal reforms to help you get along better with the people you deal with daily. Set up a budget. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Ulterior motives will leave you on the defensive with someone you thought you could trust. You may not have all the facts you need to make a sound judgment. Anger will only set you back. Go directly to the source. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let responsibilities stop you from doing the things that mean the most to you. You can spread yourself much thinner and achieve what others might think to be impossible. Use your intellect and intuition to make fast and appropriate choices. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Your ability to bring people together and make introductions will raise your profile and bring you greater popularity. Offer your home as a go-to place for a group you are associated with. You will influence decisions being made. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You have to be more selective if you want to get ahead. You cannot allow anyone to take your mind off what's essential to your future. Money issues must be handled properly. Pay debts before incurring new ones. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Be proud of your accomplishments. Act with confidence and you will get the support you require. Get the details on an investment you are considering. Don't let someone's emotional outburst cause you to change course. Follow through. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Problems at home will cost you financially, emotionally and physically. Someone you trust will break a promise or disappoint you. Prepare to make an unusual move that will take everyone by surprise. Turn a challenge into an opportunity. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): It will be hard to get away with anything, so don't bother trying. Your plans will be questioned and straight answers will be required. The longer you ponder what to do or say, the more difficult it will be to get what you want. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You may be inclined to put in your two cents worth but it will be considered meddling by someone you thought you might impress by your wit. Back off and observe before you are blamed for something you executed without thinking it through. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't feel obligated to pay for someone else's mistakes. Set standards and stick to them. Lay down your ground rules and don't deviate from your plans because of someone's disapproval. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take a positive approach; avoid anyone who is negative. You will be forced to deal with emotional issues that may be unpleasant but, if you are honest and straightforward, you will get your point across and change the outcome of a situation that is important to you. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You don't have to discard what you have done in the past—just add to your old ideas to make them viable in today's society. You have something worth offering that should be able to make you some cash and boost your reputation. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are unique and intelligent, compassionate and intent on getting things done your way. You care about tradition and your beliefs.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2		8						9
	6						8	
			7	3				2
				1		6		
		3		9		8		
		9		4				
5				8	3			
	1						2	
7						5		6

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	9	2	5	8	6	4	3	1
6	8	5	4	1	3	7	9	2
4	1	3	2	9	7	8	5	6
9	6	1	7	4	2	5	8	3
3	4	8	9	6	5	1	2	7
2	5	7	1	3	8	9	6	4
5	3	9	6	7	4	2	1	8
8	2	4	3	5	1	6	7	9
1	7	6	8	2	9	3	4	5

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/04

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ROATAN, HONDURAS **Solution: 8 letters**

F	S	Y	A	R	N	U	S	O	U	V	E	N	I	R
E	R	M	S	E	E	U	C	O	R	A	L	T	D	S
D	C	U	D	D	N	T	A	R	I	C	R	N	C	T
I	O	R	S	T	N	K	A	R	E	A	E	R	R	S
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Airline, Beach, Calm, Charter, Coast, Coral, Cruise, English, Flight, Forest, French, Fruit, Garden, Garifuna, Guide, Hideaway, Largest, Long, Oak Ridge, Paya Bay, Plane, Pool, Rattan, Relax, Retreat, Sail, Scenery, Ship, Shore, Souvenir, Spanish, Sunrays, Suntan, Swim, Tourists, Trade Winds, Travel, Trip, Vacation, Views, Water, West End, Windsurf

Yesterday's Answer: Heritage

We listened to your requests! TREASURY #6 is the first-ever Wonderword book containing only 20 x 20 puzzles, with 75 of these large puzzles. To order, send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 p&h ($14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume. $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Wonderword, Universal Press Syndicate, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

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• 5-Liner	**$35**
• 3-Liner with picture	**$45**
• 5-Liner with picture	**$55**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find today's solution in this section

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

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DRUNK DRIVING
Over the limit. Under arrest.

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
TUESDAY JUNE 2, 2009
NMC student president Mereb quits position. PAGE 3
'Irregularities' seen in previous CPA board travels. PAGE 5
Water shortage on Saipan
Fitial says decision to end Aggreko 'far from certain'
CUC emergency extended anew
'CUC unlikely to meet EPA deadlines'
OPINION METER
Sports
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SAIPAN COMMUTER TERMINAL
PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM INSTALLATION

PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-009-09
DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the Design and Installation of a Public Address System at the Saipan Commuter Terminal at the airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Design and installation timeframe;
- Project Approach;
- Design-Build Construction Team;
- Available resources to accomplish project;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format);
- Valid CNMI Business License;
- Related past project performance;
- List of completed similar projects;
- List of experienced personnel and résumé's; and
- Proof of insurance requirements as provided in Proposal Package.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Saipan Commuter Terminal Public Address System Installation– Design/Build Services". The proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2009**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

An on-site pre-proposal meeting will be conducted and interested proposers are required to attend. No proposals from non-attendees will be accepted. The on-site pre-proposal meeting will be held on June 9, 2009 at 10:00 am at the Saipan Commuter Terminal Building, Saipan Airport.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Proposers shall also submit a statement of qualifications which should include résumés and experience of personnel that will be directly in charge of the project. Note that either party of the design consultant/contractor team that submits a proposal cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different design/build teams.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax as well as associated costs for airport security badges.

The Project is being financed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.

The contract period for design and replacement will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of $500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: May 29, 2009

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES
BOARD VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Directors for the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities (Council) wishes to announce two board vacancies for representatives from the island of Saipan.

The Council is a non-profit private corporation affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council's mission is to "foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities through support of educational programs that relate the humanities to the indigenous cultures and to the intellectual needs and interests of the people of the Commonwealth."

The Council's board is comprised of thirteen volunteer members who serve three year terms. The Council strives to maintain a board that reflects a broad cross section of our CNMI community. The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to promote the Council's mission, programs, and activities. Board responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Attending regular Council meetings four times annually;
- Participating in working committee meetings;
- Evaluating Council programs and activities;
- Reviewing grant applications;
- Raising funds and recruiting community partners;
- Providing input from various community members, and
- Attending conferences, workshops and other meetings on behalf of the NMI Council for the Humanities.

Interested individuals are invited to submit their letters of interest and resumes to **Dr. Debra T. Cabrera, Chair, Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities at Post Office Box 506437 Saipan, MP 96950** or may be delivered to the NMI Council for the Humanities office, located at the Kings Plaza Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan. All letters of interest and resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 12, 2009. For additional information, please contact the Council's Executive Director at telephone 235-4785 or visit the Council's website at http://nmihumanities.org.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID
IFB 09-022

"Laptops for Ladera International School"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting competitive sealed bids for the purchase and delivery of **16 units Laptops for Ladera International School.** The Scope of Work is available at PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 09-022"** containing one (1) original with Three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd Floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **June 10, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.,** at which time bids will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Questions shall be in writing addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement & Supply officer or Email to the following address: **florian@saipan.com**

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Robert Florian
Procurement & Supply Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID
IFB 09-023

"Desktop Computers for Kagman High School"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education arc soliciting competitive scaled bids for the purchase of **Desktop Computers for Kagman High School**. The Scope of Work is available at PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund building. Capitol Hill. Saipan, MP 96950

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 09-023"** containing one (1) original with Three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950. no later than **June 17, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.,** at which time bids, will be publicly opened, Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Questions shall be in writing addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement & Supply Officer or Email to the following address: **florian@saipan.com**

/ S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Robert Florian
Procurement & Supply Officer

Federer two wins shy of finishing career Slam

PARIS (AP)—Roger Federer is accustomed to Grand Slam butterflies. He finds it difficult to eat or sleep. He feels fatigued and jittery and even a bit dizzy.

Then Federer steps on the court—and he's fine.

That was the case in the quarterfinals at the French Open, when Federer shook off the shakes to produce his best effort of the tournament. It left him two wins shy of a career Grand Slam and a 14th major title, which would tie Pete Sampras' record, and he's 5-0 against his semifinal opponent Friday, towering Argentine Juan Martin del Potro.

Federer beat France's Gael Monfils 7-6 (6), 6-2, 6-4 on Wednesday after approaching the match with apprehension.

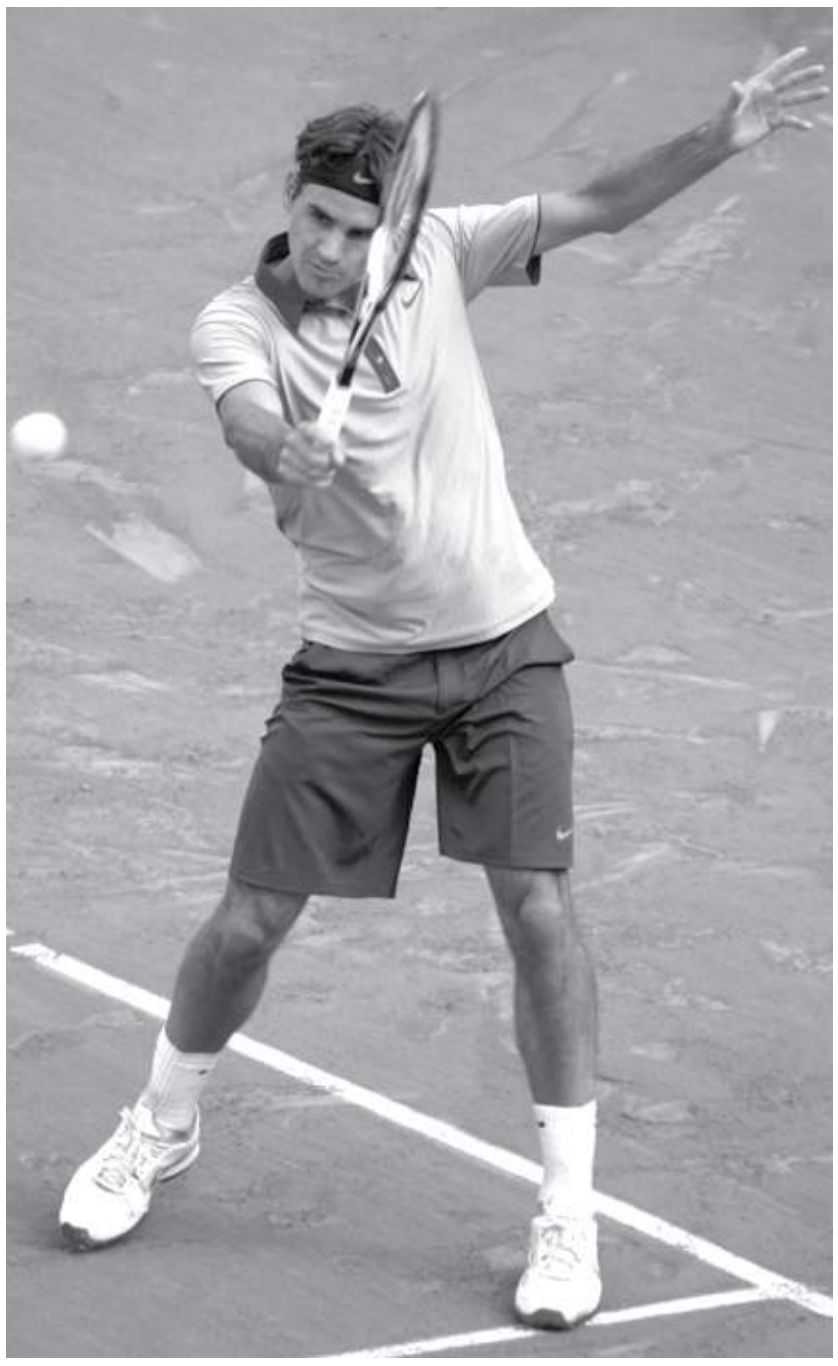
"We're all nervous at this stage of the competition," Federer said. "I felt it. ... I was tired, I was nervous, and I didn't feel really good. Then once out on court, I get my act together with the experience. I think, `Things will be all right.'"

Some of the jitters resulted from the realization this may be his best shot at a French Open title.

Federer has been beaten at Roland Garros by Rafael Nadal the past four years, including the past three finals. Robin Soderling did Federer and the rest of the field a favor by upsetting the King of Clay in the fourth round Sunday.

No. 3-seeded Andy Murray and No. 4 Novak Djokovic have also been eliminated. Federer is a combined 26-1 against the other three semifinalists—del Potro, Soderling (9-0) and Fernando Gonzalez (12-1). Against the trio, Federer has won 63 of 69 sets.

"It's also one of the reasons why I was nervous," Federer said, "because of the whole stories of Nadal losing, Murray losing, Djokovic losing maybe opening up the draw a little bit."



AP

Switzerland's Roger Federer returns the ball to France's Gael Monfils during their quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Wednesday June 3, 2009.

Shaky nerves may be his biggest opponent the rest of the way, but he handled them well against Monfils. After three consecutive tough matches, including a scare when trailing Tommy Haas by two sets, Federer found a more straightforward way to advance.

He faced two break points in the opening game and two others later, but saved them all. He also saved a set point in the tiebreaker and took the partisan crowd out of the match early.

Not that fans were that upset. If a Frenchman can't win the French Open, they would love for Federer to do it.

"I'm delighted to see to what extent they are supporting me," he said. "I feel like they've almost adopted me. ...

"Everybody is like, `This is your year. You've got to do it.' They're screaming from their scooters and out of the car. They even get out at the red lights and want me to sign an autograph or take a picture. It's quite incredible this last couple of weeks."

Now he's a semifinalist for the 20th consecutive time at a Grand Slam tournament, extending his record. The 20-year-old del Potro earned his first major semifinal berth by beating No. 16 Tommy Robredo 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

In Friday's other match, the No. 23-seeded Soderling will try to continue his improbable run against No. 12 Gonzalez. Soderling finds himself beyond the third round at a Grand Slam tournament for the first time, while Gonzalez is the first Chilean since 1960 to reach the Roland Garros semifinals.

The first of the women's semifinals Thursday matched No. 1 Dinara Safina against No. 20 Dominika Cibulkova. No. 7 Svetlana Kuznetsova, coming off a grueling three-set win over Serena Williams, was to play No. 30 Samantha Stosur in the second match.

Neither Stosur nor Cibulkova has won a tour title, much less a Grand Slam tournament.

Del Potro's new to the spotlight, too. He has climbed from 44th to fifth in the rankings in the past 18 months, but Federer has beaten him twice this year—in the quarterfinals at the Australian Open, and last month in Madrid on clay.

"With his game, he does everything perfectly," del Potro said. "His game is much of a problem to me, and this is why I never won when I played him."

The 6-foot-6 del Potro has a big serve and forehand but could face his own battle with nerves. And he knows the crowd will be in Federer's corner.

"Everybody wants Roger to win this tournament," del Potro said. "If I can't win this tournament, I want to see next Sunday Roger with the trophy."

Dwight Howard and Kobe Bryant set for title tilt

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sporting a body-hugging tank top, Dwight Howard bounded onto the press conference podium flashing his megawatt smile and muscles on muscles.

Unsure where to sit, he looked at the high chair to his right, a perch he was told was reserved for Los Angeles coach Phil Jackson.

Not there.

So Howard slid into a seat occupied moments earlier by Lakers star Kobe Bryant, whose interview session was cold and charmless. Orlando's super center was just the opposite. He beamed like a little kid at the circus and then announced his arrival at the NBA finals.

"This is the chance of a lifetime to be playing for a championship," Howard said. "Our motivation is greatness. We want to be a great team."

They'll have their chance.

Overlooked for months and an underdog throughout much of the playoffs, the Magic will return to the finals for the first time since 1995 on Thursday night when they take on the Lakers at Staples Center.

Orlando hasn't been on the big hardwood stage since they had Shaquille O'Neal, their original Superman, breaking backboards and roaming the paint on both ends. The Magic are back, and Howard and his band of merry marksmen are relishing that they aren't being given much of a shot.

"We've always been overlooked," Howard said. "We were overlooked in the first series against Philly. We were overlooked against Boston. We were overlooked against the Cavs, and we're still overlooked. We don't want to be a team that everybody picks to win, because I think as a young team, once everybody starts saying, 'OK, you're this or you're that,' sometimes you tend to forget what got you there.

"Everybody picking against us motivates us. It drives us to do something greater."

To understand these two teams and their differences, one need look no further than the two team's respective superstars: Bryant and Howard.

The 30-year-old Bryant, with three championship rings in his jewelry box, is looking for his first without Shaq, his former teammate with whom he shared a love/hate relationship.

But Bryant, who maintained a stone-faced look throughout his interview session, doesn't feel he needs a post-Shaq championship for his legacy.

"Not at all," Bryant said. "It means nothing. To me, it's about winning another one, just because I want to win another one. "People think Shaq would have won a championship without me on that team. They're crazy."

O'Neal, a 7-foot timeline connecting finals appearances by both franchises, posted a message on his Twitter feed saying he was pulling for Bryant.

"I am saying it today and today only," Shaq tweeted. "I want kobe bryant to get number four, spread da word."

Bryant said he and his teammates have learned from last year's Boston massacre, when they were beaten in Game 6 by 39 points. This time, the focus, the drive, everything will be different with the Lakers.

"We've been through this hoopla," Bryant said.

Los Angeles would seem to have everything—history, experience, star power, coaching, A-List celebrities—over Orlando.

The Lakers have won 14 titles. Orlando, 0.

The Lakers have won 61 finals games. Orlando, 0.

Jackson has nine championship rings. Orlando's Stan Van Gundy 1—but he got it as an assistant and doesn't know where it is.

Even Van Gundy poked fun at himself while comparing resumes with Jackson.

"The guy has won more playoff series than I have playoff games," Van Gundy said. "You're talking about one of the greatest coaches, if not the greatest coach, in the history of the NBA and I'm here for the first time. It's not a coaching matchup, it's a team matchup."

The Magic won both meetings between the teams during the regular season.

"They've beaten us three of the last four times," Bryant said. "So we're very, very concerned."

They should be.

Howard, the league's defensive player of the year, is getting better by the touch on offense and is coming off a 40-point, 14-rebound performance in Game 6 of the Eastern Conference finals when the Magic sent LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers home in a huff.

Pay too much attention to Howard inside and the Magic make opponents pay by knocking down 3-pointers. They made 62 of them against the Cavs and are averaging 8.6 per game in the postseason.

Orlando has knocked off the favored Celtics, Cavaliers and can now dispatch the Lakers.

No team has ever beaten three 60-win teams in the same postseason.

Howard thinks the Magic can nail the trifecta.

"I like our chances of winning this series," he said. "If we defend, rebound and run, we should have a title."

Patriots' safety Harrison announces retirement

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—Two-time Pro Bowl safety Rodney Harrison announced his retirement on Wednesday, saying he is through hitting quarterbacks after a 15-year career for the New England Patriots and San Diego Chargers.

"I am done, and I am very much so at peace with that," he said in a conference call with reporters. "Football has been good to me. I've worked hard; I've played hard. I've done some things that I never dreamt I could do, and now it's time to move forward to the next phase of my life."

Later Wednesday, NBC announced that Harrison will join its NFL studio show; he worked for the network during its Super Bowl coverage last year.

Expect Harrison's frank speaking to continue.

"When I played I didn't have many friends," he said on the network's conference call, "so I'm sure I'm not going to make friends now."

The 36-year-old Harrison holds the NFL record for defensive backs with 30 1/2 sacks; he also has 34 interceptions, making him the only player to have at least 30 of each. But the numbers only tell part of the story about a player who had a reputation as one of the hardest hitters in the league—and one of the dirtiest, too.

"People have called me a dirty player. I'm a very passionate player," Harrison said. "I also understand that this is not volleyball. This is a very violent, physical game, and if you hit someone in the mouth, you're not going to be their friend. That's what the game of football is."

Rangers beat Yankees to take AL lead

NEWYORK (AP)—The Texas Rangers leapfrogged New York for the best record in the American League with a 4-2 win over the Yankees on Wednesday.

Scott Feldman pitched into the seventh inning, allowing only one earned run, to win his third consecutive start.

New York catcher Jorge Posada homered for the second straight day. Veteran pitcher Andy Pettitte, who left his previous start with a stiff back, looked shaky over five innings. The Yankees were without first baseman Mark Teixeira, scratched with a bruised right ankle.

Ranger closer Frank Francisco got three outs for his 12th save.

Red Sox 10, Tigers 5

In Detroit, Boston beat Detroit, and took advantage of New York's defeat to move equal top of the AL East Division.

Starting pitcher Josh Beckett did not allow a hit until there were two outs in the seventh inning. He retired 18 straight batters between the first and seventh innings.

The Tigers ended the shutout bid with five unearned runs in the eighth.

Red Sox slugger David Ortiz recpatured some of his lost sparkle, hitting a two-run double.

Angels 8, Blue Jays 1

In Toronto, Los Angeles pitcher Jered Weaver had a career-high 10 strikeouts, steering his side to a win over Toronto.

The Angels, who finished with seven extra-base hits, moved back above .500.

Weaver allowed just one run in seven innings to win back-to-back starts for the first time this season. He has an ERA of 1.64 in his past six starts. He didn't allow a hit through the first four innings.

Rays 9, Royals 0

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Tampa Bay starter Jeff Niemann took a perfect game into the fifth inning and wound up with a two-hitter, guiding the hosts to victory over Kansas City.

Niemann retired the first 14 batters before giving up a two-out single in the fifth. He struck out a career-high nine in his first complete game.

Ben Zobrist hit a grand slam for the Rays.

Mariners 3, Orioles 2

In Seattle, Franklin Gutierrez tripled in the bottom of the ninth and Adrian Beltre singled him home, sending Seattle to a tight victory over Baltimore.

Gutierrez's drive banged off the top of the wall in left-center just beyond the reach of a leaping center fielder. Ichiro Suzuki, who had earlier extended his hitting streak to 27 games, and Russell Branyan were then deliberately walked with one out, loading the bases for Beltre.

On his third 3-2 pitch, Beltre lined a single into left field out of the reach of the drawn-in shortstop.

Indians 10, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, ace pitcher Cliff Lee received some run support for a change, cruising through eight innings to help Cleveland thrash Minnesota.

Lee, last year's Cy Young winner for the AL's best pitcher, turned in his 10th straight start of six innings or more and three runs allowed or less, but picked up only his second victory since mid-April. He was handed just 30 runs of offensive support over his first 11 appearances.

The Indians got a two-out, five-run surge in the third inning.

Athletics 5, White Sox 3

In Chicago, Bobby Crosby and Landon Powell hit back-to-back homers, helping Oakland overcome Chicago.

Jason Giambi also connected for Oakland, with all the homers coming off Chicago pitcher Clayton Richard.

Dodgers 1, Diamondbacks 0

In Los Angeles, Dodgers pitcher Chad Billingsley struck out nine Arizona batters over six innings to steer his team to a win over the Diamondbacks.

The Dodgers escaped a jam in the eighth, with shortstop Rafael Furcal completing a double play to end the inning with runners on first and third.

Closer Jonathan Broxton pitched a perfect ninth for his 13th save in 15 games, completing the combined seven-hitter.

Casey Blake's sacrifice fly provided the only run of the game.

Reds 9, Cardinals 3

In St. Louis, Cincinnati pitcher Johnny Cueto beat St. Louis for the second time in less than a month.

Cueto allowed just one run in 6 1-3 innings.

Laynce Nix homered in the second for the Reds' first run and added a three-run shot, his sixth of the season, in the eighth for a 7-1 cushion. He also made an outstanding leaping catch to rob Ryan Ludwick of extra bases and an RBI in the sixth.

Phillies 5, Padres 1

In San Diego, Philadelphia notched a sixth straight win by downing San Diego.

Ryan Howard hit a two-run homer, his second of this three game series which the Phillies swept by scoring 20 runs on 33 hits, including 15 for extra bases.

The reigning World Series champions moved three games clear atop the NL East division.

Brewers 9, Marlins 6

In Miami, Milwaukee scored three runs on walks, helping snap a five-game road losing streak with victory over Florida.

The Brewers scored six runs in the fifth inning, three on bases-loaded walks off reliever Hayden Penn, who was sent back to the minor leagues after the game.

Ryan Braun homered for the Brewers, who moved a game clear atop the NL Central.

Cubs 3, Braves 2, 11 innings

In Atlanta, pinch-hitter Micah Hoffpauir got an RBI single in the 11th inning to lift Chicago over Atlanta.

Derrek Lee started the 11th by drawing a walk, then pulled off a nifty bit of baserunning to reach second. On a routine fly to left, Lee caught the fielder off guard by tagging up and just beating a delayed throw to second.

Lee stopped at third on a single by Reed Johnson, then came home when Hoffpauir looped a single just over the head of the third baseman.

Astros 6, Rockies 4

In Houston, Hunter Pence had a solo homer and two RBI singles and Houston beat Colorado to notch a fourth straight win.

The Astros have won seven of their past eight games against the Rockies, who have now lost four on the trot.

MLB BRIEFS

Braves acquire All-Star OF McLouth from Pirates

ATLANTA (AP)—The Braves acquired All-Star center fielder Nate McLouth from the Pittsburgh Pirates for three minor leaguers on Wednesday, a move to beef up Atlanta's offense in hopes of contending in the NL East. The 27-year-old McLouth set career highs last season with a .276 batting average, 26 homers and 94 RBIs. The Braves desperately needed more offense from an outfield that produced only 10 homers through the first 51 games. Atlanta gave up outfielder Gorkys Hernandez, one of its top prospects, along with pitchers Charlie Morton and Jeff Locke. McLouth, who is hitting .256 with nine homers and 34 RBIs this season, fills several needs for the Braves.

Braves release 305-game winner Tom Glavine

ATLANTA (AP)—Tom Glavine wanted to end his career with the Braves. If this is the end, it wasn't on his terms. Atlanta released the winningest active pitcher in the big leagues on Wednesday, a stunning move just when it seemed he was ready to return to the Braves. The 43-year-old Glavine, who was coming back from shoulder and elbow surgery, threw six scoreless innings in a rehab start for Class-A Rome on Tuesday night and proclaimed himself ready to pitch in the majors again.

Camacho hits grand slam in Trubak win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Trubak rallied past Kagman Jack to eke out a 16-13 victory last Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield and enter the win column in the 2009 Belau Masters Slowpitch Softball League.

Leftfielder Ben Camacho went 3-for-5 for Trubak, making a grand slam at the top of the first. He recorded his second homer in the third inning and finished with seven RBIs.

Trubak reported for the weekend game with a 0-5 slate and Kagman Jack was threatening to keep the former in misery, leading at 8-6 after three innings.

A six-run top of the fourth put Trubak in the lead, 12-8, and it kept the driver's seat after four complete innings, as Kagman failed to score at the bottom.

Trubak continued its uphill climb, adding four more runs at the top of the fifth. At the bottom of the fifth, extra hitter Magofna blasted a two-run single and Kagman scored three more runs to move within three, 13-16.

Neither team reached home plate in the last two innings preserving Trubak's come-from-behind win. The loss dropped Kagman to a 1-6 slate.

Dolphins 11, Choll Aces 10

League-leading IT&E Dolphins capitalized on a costly Choll Aces error and pitcher Perry Besong delivered in the last inning to pull off an 11-10 win.

The game was tied, 10-all, after six complete innings, when Choll Aces first baseman Ed Kapileo bobbled the ball, allowing Pepe Tenorio to reach home plate.

At the bottom of the last inning, Choll Aces had runners on first and second base when Beson struck out the second and third batter. Choll Aces fifth batter Marcel Baroa then flied out to centerfield, helping the Dolphins kept their record clean in seven games.

Choll Aces absorbed their third loss in seven matches and dropped to a tie for third place with Salty Boys.

Salty Boys 17, Peleliu 6

Salty Boys was the lone team to walk away with an easy win last Sunday after whipping Peleliu, 17-6.

After a 3-all score in one complete inning, Salty Boys started their breakaway with a seven-run bottom of the second. Percy Omechelang had a solo homer in the second inning, while Darwin Masaharu and Steven Brell connected on a two-run triple and two-run single, respectively, to spark Salty Boys' rally.

Ed Sablan claims SGA June Ace

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ed Sablan finished only third in Saipan Golf Association's tournament last Sunday at Marianas Country Club, but he came out the biggest winner in the weekend event after securing the SGA June Ace title.

Frank Rosario topped the tournament with his net 73, while Joe Rosario had the second best net score of the day with his 73. Frank and Joe were already winners of Ace titles and are disqualified from taking another monthly plum, allowing Sablan to take the June trophy.

Sablan had all the breaks in last weekend's tournament, as he finished third after beating two other SGA members in a tiebreak.

The 19-handicapper Sablan shot a 52 and 44 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a net 77 and gross 96. Also firing a net 77 were Joe Guerrero and Vince Rosario, who lost in the tiebreak when they made a triple bogey and 5-over par on the par-4 hole No. 5, respectively. Sablan double bogeyed the tiebreak hole.

Frank Rosario, who won the April Ace, ruled last week's tournament after drilling a 43 on the front and 41 on the back for a gross 84. His 13 handicap netted him a score of 71. Two strokes behind Frank Rosario was Joe Rosario, a 20-handicapper who logged a 47 and 46 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross of 93.

Nineteen SGA members competed for the June Ace title and closest to the pin and longest drive contests.

Closest to the pin winners were Steve Balakrishna (No. 6 and 16), Joe Demapan (No. 8), and Sablan (No. 12).

Demapan also prevailed in the longest drive contest in No. 7, while former DCCA secretary Juan L. Babauta won the same competition in hole No. 17.

SGA is halfway through its 2009 season with six more slots left for the 2009 SGA Ace of the Aces Tournament. Getting the first six spots in the yearend tournament were Tony Guerrero (January), Joe Rosario (February), Ray Dela Cruz (March) Frank Rosario (April), Demapan (May), and Sablan (June).

RGA June qualifier at MCC

The Refaluwasch Golfers Association will be holding its June Ace qualifying tournament at the Marianas Country Club tomorrow.

Tee time is at 12pm, while check-in time is at 11am.

The event is open to 25 players.

The member to win the weekend tournament will claim the RGA June Ace title if his score is unbeaten in the next tournament for this month.

RGA is also encouraging its members to participate in two upcoming fundraisers, the Tournament of Champions and NMC Golf, in support of having many community projects in the CNMI.

For more information on RGA tournaments, contact tournament director Jess Wabol at 288-1129 or RGA president Jordon Kosam at 483-4503. ***(PR)***

SAIPAN

From Page 36

midal. Bernard Cabrera is the team's assistant coach.

The Saipan Junior All-Stars will be playing against the Rota Junior All-Stars in a best-of-three series. The first team to top two games wins the district meet and will represent the CNMI to the 2009 Asia Pacific Regional Tournament in Jakarta, Indonesia.

"We have a great team that has been practicing very hard from Day 1 after players were selected. I have faith in these hard working young players and I hope this hard work is enough to pull us through," Mizer said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

"We don't know how Rota plays, so we will just go out there, give our best, and not play with too much confidence," she added.

The Saipan Junior All-Stars will play Rota on Saturday at 9am. The only two teams entered in the Junior League will duel again on the same day at 1pm. If they split the first two games, the deciding Game 3 will be played on Sunday at 9am.

Rota has a 13-man lineup for its Junior All-Stars, namely Aldine Mendiola, Austin Masga, Chris Manglona, Daniel Taitano, David Dre Ramos, Dominic Mendiola, Ferminton Maratita, Harvey Atalig, Isaiah Ogo, Juan Cablay, Juan Lizama, Jr., Jake Mendiola, and Samson Lizama. Oscar Quitugua is the team manager, while Vincent Manglona and Abel Hocog are the coach and assistant coach, respectively.

Besides the Junior League, the district meet will also feature competitions in the Major and Senior divisions.

All three islands have teams for the Major League division, which will be a round-robin tournament with the Top 2 teams advancing to the title game on Sunday at 9am at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield. Only Tinian and Saipan teams are entered in the Senior League.

The Saipan Major All-Stars are composed of Alden Ngeskebei, Ray Saralu, Nathan Sablan, Khobby Kaipat, Keene Deleon Guerrero, Jose Lizama, Jr., Jonathan Cabrera, Jhace Palacios, Jeremy Lizama, Ian Rogolifoi, Gayvan Uchau, Frankie Lieto, and Darion Jones. Elmer Sablan is the team's manager, while Randall Aguon and Peter Tomokane, are the coach and assistant coach, respectively.

Making it to the Tinian Major All-Stars, which have Keith Nabors as manager, are Bradley Borja, Venny Untalan, Peter Villagomez, Jr., Marvin Cruz, Jr., KeShaun Nabors, Jose Sablan, Joseph Mendiola, Jr., Jose Kiyoshi, Jr., Ignacio Borja, Dillion Basa, Dachelbai Cruz, and Christan Masga. Joining the team is coach Andrew Macaranas.

Rota listed 14 players, namely Roque Lizama, Richard Kapileo, Rhowan Hizon, Noah Quitugua, Kent Manglona, Keanu Barcinas, Julenolf Ian Jacob, John Zane Quitugua, Jaydon Blas, Frank Mesngon, Danuell Rangamar, Dane Salazar, Colby Ogo, and Austin Maratita. Rota is managed by Wayne Aldan with Ron Calvo and Terrance Taimanao as coach and assistant coach, respectively.

The opening ceremony for the district meet will start at 5:30pm with Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos and Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela serving as guest speakers.

NICOLE

From Page 36

switching partners in every game, and earning points. The female with the most points in the third and final round gets to claim the Queen of the Beach title.

"The format works best in multiples of eight so that the elimination always produces a number that can be divided into 2 vs. 2. It sounds complicated, but once you see it, it's easy to understand," said Laurie Peterka, Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball president and event organizer.

Participants were divided into four pools for Round 1 with the Top 8 scorers advancing to Round 2 (semifinals) and only the Top 4 moving into Round 3 (finals).

Pool A had Heather Kennedy, Le Blanc, Melody Matson, and Melissa Halaby. Linda Anastacio was in Pool B with Kelley Butcher, Peterka, and Mili Saiki. Kim Peterson, Janna Young, Lindsey Sosovec, and Kegn Hall were listed in Pool C, while Pool D was composed of Amber Roberts, Jen Brown, Natalie Hill, and Rachel Rounds.

Hall emerged as top finisher in Round 1 with her 63 points, while Le Blanc almost missed the cut, claiming the last spot with her 51 points. Matson finished second (59 points), followed by Kennedy (57), Young (56), Anastacio (55), Peterson (52), and Halaby (52).

In Round 2, Le Blanc was nearly eliminated, anew. She was tied for third to fourth with Young, as they tallied identical scores of 58 points in three games. Le Blanc and Young were only a point ahead against former CNMI player Halaby. Matson and Peterson secured the first two spots after earning 63 and 61 points, respectively.

After facing tough challenges in the first two rounds, Le Blanc was in her best form in the crucial third round, logging 66 points to beat Peterson, (63), Matson (57), and Young (52).

Le Blanc first teamed up with Peterson and they topped the pair of Matson and Young, 21-17. Le Blanc second partner was Young and this time they lost to Peterson and Matson by only a point, 24-25. Le Blanc secured the Queen of the Beach title when she and teammate Matson downed Peterson and Young in Game 3, 21-17.

INTERNATIONAL

From Page 36

its 25th year a memorable one.

MVA, for one, said that more than 50 boats are expected for this summer's fish-a-thon with top prizes to be awarded to the crew that reels in the three biggest fish in five categories—bill fish, yellow fin tuna, wahoo, mahi-mahi, and skipjack.

SFA, for its part, said additional prizes will be awarded for the highest total weight and for the first participant to break the derby record of landing a 624.34-lb. marlin.

"The Saipan International Fishing Tournament draws both local and international competitive sport fisherman for a great weekend of fishing, and we're looking forward to this year's anniversary having a strong turnout," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio. "We're already expecting at least 60 boats."

Competitors from Guam and Palau have already announced their intentions to participate in the yearly fishing tournament.

Registration is $150 per boat, inclusive of a captain and one angler. The fee for each additional angler is $25.

Registration will be conducted on July 17 at Smiling Cove Marina in Garapan. As previously mentioned, boat launching on both days of competition will be at Smiling Cove Marina, Fishing Base in Garapan, or Sugar Dock in Chalan Kanoa from 6am to 8am.

The Department of Public Safety's Boating Safety Unit will also once again conduct boat safety inspections a week prior to the event.

For more information or a registration form from MVA, contact Ed Diaz at ediaz@mymarianas.com or Frank Tudela at ftudela@mymarianas.com or call 664-3200.

Last year, *Cabo Express* hoisted the perpetual grand prize trophy in the 24th edition of the event after reeling in a 484-lb. marlin.

In the total weight category, *Carmelita* won with its total catch of 259.15 lbs., including a 44.75-lb. wahoo.

Other division winners were the following:

- *MV Gloria II* won the wahoo category with its 52.85-lb. haul;
- *Chacha II* won the billfish category with its 277.5-lb. haul;
- *The Marianas* won the yellow fin category with its 49.10-lb. haul;
- *Emmanuel* won the mahi-mahi category with its 19.15-lb. haul; and
- *Zeppelin* won the skipjack category with its 21.65-lb. haul.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	31	22	.585	—
New York	31	22	.585	—
Toronto	30	25	.545	2
Tampa Bay	27	28	.491	5
Baltimore	24	30	.444	7 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	28	23	.549	—
Minnesota	26	28	.481	3 1/2
Chicago	25	27	.481	3 1/2
Kansas City	23	29	.442	5 1/2
Cleveland	23	32	.418	7

West Division

Texas	31	21	.596	—
Los Angeles	26	25	.510	4 1/2
Seattle	26	28	.481	6
Oakland	21	30	.412	9 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	31	20	.608	—
New York	28	23	.549	3
Atlanta	26	26	.500	5 1/2
Florida	25	29	.463	7 1/2
Washington	14	36	.280	16 1/2

Central Division

Milwaukee	31	22	.585	—
St. Louis	30	23	.566	1
Cincinnati	28	24	.538	2 1/2
Chicago	26	25	.510	4
Pittsburgh	24	28	.462	6 1/2
Houston	23	28	.451	7

West Division

Los Angeles	37	18	.673	—
San Francisco	25	25	.500	9 1/2
San Diego	25	28	.472	11
Arizona	23	31	.426	13 1/2
Colorado	20	32	.385	15 1/2

Yesterday's Games

N.Y. Mets at Pittsburgh, ppd., rain
San Francisco at Washington, ppd., rain
Chicago Cubs 3, Atlanta 2, 11 innings
Milwaukee 9, Florida 6
Houston 6, Colorado 4
Cincinnati 9, St. Louis 3
Philadelphia 5, San Diego 1
L.A. Dodgers 1, Arizona 0
Boston 10, Detroit 5
Texas 4, N.Y. Yankees 2
L.A. Angels 8, Toronto 1
Tampa Bay 9, Kansas City 0
Cleveland 10, Minnesota 1
Oakland 5, Chicago White Sox 3
Seattle 3, Baltimore 2

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

BELAU MASTERS STANDINGS

Dolphins	7	0
Lancheros	5	2
Choll Aces	4	3
Salty Boys	4	3
Peleliu	2	5
Trubak	1	5
Kagman Jack	1	6

Lakers or Magic? Saipan NBA fans give their take

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

After having their collective behinds kicked by the rival Celtics in last year's NBA Finals, Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers continue their quest for championship No. 15 today when they meet the upstart Orlando Magic, who are making only their second appearance in the big stage.

Will it be the Lakers returning to the ranks of NBA royalty by hoisting anew the Larry O'Brien trophy or will Dwight Howard, a.k.a, Superman 2.0, and the Magic continue their giant-killing ways?

Unlike last year, the Lakers didn't waltz its way through the finals this time with the Utah Jazz making them sweat for five games in the opening round, the mostly McGrady- and Yao-less Houston Rockets providing them tons of trouble in seven hard-fought games in the second round, and the athletic and physical Denver Nuggets giving them fits in the Western Conference finals.

Orlando was given no chance by basketball pundits against the defending champions Boston Celtics in their second round matchup; after the lowly Philadelphia 76ers extended them to six games in the first round.

But sans the Big Ticket, Kevin Garnett, the walking wounded Celtics ultimately lost to the Magic in seven games. Against the erstwhile undefeated Cavaliers, the Magic overcame LeBron James' majestic performance in the Eastern Conference finals by letting Cleveland's supporting cast beat them.

That proved to be just what the doctor ordered, as Mo Williams, Zydrunas Ilgauskas, and Wally Szczerbiak time and again fired blanks and the Magic advanced to the finals behind Howard's 40-point, 14-rebound performance in Game 6.

So what team are local basketball prognosticators picking in the NBA? Read on:

I am originally from Florida so I have to go with the Magic but Kobe is one of my favorite players. I think Orlando will win the series they just outmatch and outsize the Lakers. Dwight Howard will be the MVP he is just too big and strong for anyone on the Lakers to handle in the paint. He will set the tone for the series and Orlando will win in six games.

Jeff Taylor
Championship flight golfer

I'm going for the Lakers because I want to see Kobe get that ring without Shaq. It just seems like a great chapter in Kobe's story. Especially the door is closing for him. There are so many teams getting better and with Kevin Garnett coming back next year the opportunity wouldn't be as it is compared to what he has now. Don't get me wrong I like the Magic and the run they are making, however they are young and Dwight Howard will get more chances compared to Kobe.

The key player for the Lakers in this series is Lamar Odom and Trevor Ariza for their inside/out abilities in both sides of the court. They will truly make this series a hell of an experience for Rashard Lewis and Hedo Turkoglu.

I pick the Lakers in six.

Jerry Diaz
Docomo Pacific player

Lakers, because I'm a home grown Californian. I don't like Kobe and I don't like Los Angeles, I'm from Northern California, but that isn't enough for me to go against the best West Coast team playing. No predictions, but I think the Lakers will win in spite of Koby-Igo.

James Feger
Rocball creator

I'm rooting for the Magic! LA has felt the glory of being champions too many times. I'm sure they deserve the shot at the title again, but I want the new guys to prove big things and win it in Game 7. The reason why I say Game 7, is because, I want to see an amazing fight for the championship and I know the Magic have the talent to make it extremely hard for Kobe Bryant and company.

Justis "Cuki" F. Alvarez
Trench Tech, Inc. president and promoter

Definitely the Magic. The Lakers have no one who can slow down Dwight Howard without double-teaming him, and if they do, their guards aren't fast enough to get out and stop Orlando's three-point shooters. Kobe carries the Lakers to Game 7, but it ends there.

Michael A. White
NMASA president/BANMI secretary general

I don't really follow basket ball, but here goes… .I will always choose the underdogs, in this case the Orlando Magic. I believe in miracle games....

Vicente "Ben" Babauta
DFS Saipan, Limited assistant general manager

I grew up in L.A. so of course I'm pulling for the Lakers. I do like the Magic and Dwight Howard though and would be pulling for them if the Lakers had not won the West. This could go seven games with the visiting teams having a hard time winning in opposing arenas. Kobe is the key player of the series, the Magic will have serious match-up problems with him, while on the other side, the Lakers will be ready to swarm Dwight Howard with a number of big men. If Pau Gasol, et al can't slow him, Howard is the X-factor but I think they will somewhat contain him and that Lamar Odom, playing real well right now, could very well be the X-factor in a tight game.

Best of all, the big slug Shaq Diesel gets to watch his two former teams, both of whom made it to the Finals without him.

Randy Steele
Triple J Motors general manager

I'm rooting for the Magic. They've shown their resilience all throughout the playoffs. They beat the Celtics and seven games when no one gave them a chance and surprised LeBron James and his Cavalier in six games.

Lito Espino
NMBA president

Although the L.A. Lakers played more solid games during the regular season and the conference finals, I'll still go for the Orlando Magic. It's not because that I have never been a Lakers fan, but the way the Magic wrapped up their conference finals, they're peaking at the right time. Dwight "Superman" Howard was superb during the last remaining games of Conference Finals against the highly favored LeBron and the Cavs. I can imagine how hungry the Magic team is to win the championship, it has never hoisted the Larry O'Brien trophy since it first entered the NBA 20 years ago.

Even with Kobe Bryant's every game superstar performance, I see the Magic having the deeper support consisting of Rashard Lewis, Hedo Turkoglu, Rafer Alston, and the rookie Courtney Lee, not to mention Frenchman Mickael Pietrus who I think will be tasked to guard Kobe.

Turkoglu's consistent performance will likely elevate Magic's win in six games.

Manny Sitchon
BANMI referee and triathlete

Demapan comes back to win Top Pool Bar 8-ball

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Brad Demapan rose up from the loser's bracket to defeat top seeded Don Antonio twice in the championship round to win the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament.

Demapan and Antonio started last Saturday's poolfest at the Garapan sports bar and watering hole on different paths.

Top-ranked cue artist Chester Hamoy defeated Demapan, while Antonio upset Roger "The Ghost" Espiritu in the opening round.

Other first round results saw Boyet Sequioco beating Luis Fajardo and Mark Butac getting the better of Juancho Mendoza.

In the second round, Hamoy took out Sequico and Antonio disposed of Butac to arrange a showdown for the all-important twice-to-beat advantage in the championship round.

The semifinals between Antonio and Hamoy was as competitive as it could be with the two alternating makes and misses before the former sunk his remaining two balls following a critical miss by the latter.

In the elimination round to decide who will contest the second finals berth against Hamoy, the resilient Demapan upended Fajardo and Mendoza exorcised Espiritu.

Demapan continued his roll with a win over Butac in the next phase, which saw Espiritu rebound with a victory over Sequioco.

Hamoy then had his semifinals opponent when Demapan secured his third straight win by eliminating Espiritu.

Even the usually steady Hamoy had no answer against Demapan. The latter beat him when Hamoy scratched on his third shot with the 8-ball hanging on the pocket that gave Demapan his easiest shot of the evening.

In Game 1 of the finals, Demapan was aggressive from the get-go, pocketing a tough kick shot after the cue ball hid from the 8-ball when the only way to get to it was through the rail.

Lady Luck continued to smile on Demapan when he won Game 2 only after Antonio missed on his safety shot. With the ball in hand, Demapan then pocketed his last ball and the 8-ball to complete the improbable win.

The victory earned him $60, while Antonio had to settle for the $20 runner-up purse.

The Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament is held every Saturday and adopts a double-elimination format with a maximum of 16 players.

The entrance fee is $10 and the tournament uses the rules of the Billiards Congress of America. Practice is free between 7pm to 8pm on game day.

For more information on the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament, call Top Pool Bar manager Zheng Jian Qing at 287-7676.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Brad Demapan, left, won last Saturday's Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament. Posing with Demapan are, from left, third place Chester Hamoy and runner-up Don Antonio.

Lakers or Magic? Saipan NBA fans give their take

After having their collective behinds kicked by the rival Celtics in last year's NBA Finals, Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers continue their quest for championship No. 15 today when they meet the upstart Orlando Magic, who are making only their second appearance in the big stage. 35

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Federer two wins shy of finishing career Slam

Roger Federer is accustomed to Grand Slam butterflies. He finds it difficult to eat or sleep. He feels fatigued and jittery and even a bit dizzy. 32

Saipan Junior All-Stars all set for district meet

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Junior League All-Star manager Thelma Mizer has released the team's roster in time for the 2009 CNMI District Tournament that will kick off tonight at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Making the team are Christian Mizer, Jeremy and Henry Rabauliman, Lamarc Iguel, Frankie Camacho, Ricardo Dela Cruz, Aldelbert Lizama, Brian Camacho, Allen Aguon, Jared Sablan, Patrick Tenorio, Arthur Jebehn, Poland Masaharu, and Joseph Atalig.

Players from SLLB champions (Junior League) Patriots form the core of the Saipan Junior All-Stars, who will be coached by Oliver Sechar-

See SAIPAN on Page 34

Brian Camacho, seen here pitching for the Patriots in their game against Ol'Aces, is among the 14 players selected for the Saipan Junior All-Stars who will play Rota in he 2009 CNMI District Tournament this weekend at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Nicole LeBlanc is Queen of the Beach

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Nicole LeBlanc saved her best for last in a unique tournament played last Saturday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan sand court to gain the 2009 NMIVA Queen of the Beach tiara.

LeBlanc survived the grueling three-round tournament, which had players competing in a two-person beach volleyball,

See NICOLE on Page 34

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Queen of the Beach Nicole Le Blanc, seated, is joined on her royal court by three other finalists, standing from left, Kim Peterson, Janna Young, and Melody Matson.

International fishing derby turning silver

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

The 25th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament will be held on July 18 and 19 with participating boats launching from the Sugar Dock in Chalan Kanoa and Smiling Cove Marina at the American Memorial Park.

The tournament, the longest running fishing competition in the CNMI, incidentally is celebrating its silver anniversary this year and the Marianas Visitors Authority and the Saipan Fishermen's Association are pulling out all the stops to make

See INTERNATIONAL on Page 34

Rep. Heinz Hofschneider, right, captain of *Cabo Expres*s and his crew pose with the 484-lb. marlin they caught in Day 1 of the 24th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament held last Aug. 9, 2008.

MARK RABAGO

OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2

Diss dat

The national media made a fuss over the refusal of LeBron James to shake hands after the Cavaliers were eliminated by the Orlando Magic in the Eastern Conference Finals, using a ton of ink, lots of jaw exercising, and enough broadband to service Portugal.

As of this writing, NBA High Honcho David Stern has not exacted punishment for James' boorish behavior, saying he was still gathering facts and considering what would be appropriate action, although he did admit he was not pleased with how James acted.

Stern said he wanted to talk to James before he made his decision. When asked in a radio interview which bothered him more, skipping the media or skipping handshakes, Stern said, "One goes to rules, another goes to values. I think both of them should be followed."

While there is no policy that requires players to shake hands after a game, the league does have a requirement to appear in front of the media to take questions. If my memory is correct, a $10,000 fine is in the ballpark as the standard fine for skipping the post-game media conference. Using my cheap calculator, $10,000 to LeBron is the same as $7.50 to me.

Normally, the fine is announced a day or two afterwards. But obviously this is not a normal situation. LeBron is not only the face of the NBA these days; he's also the heart and soul.

What makes this issue a bit different, and difficult, is the fact that LeBron has up to now been a poster child for the league. He's the exemplary role model, always polite and accommodating. Even more importantly, he's the primary reason for the record TV playoff ratings.

That's a lot of brownie points King James has earned. If anyone deserves a pass, it's him.

The next day explaining himself, wearing a Yankee cap that said as much as anything that came out of his mouth, he dismissed the walk-off as no big deal, just part of his competitive nature.

LeBron James will be back and back with a vengeance next season. It's too early to see if his image took a hit. I doubt it. He's too awesome.

But then I recall something similar from the past.

Isiah Thomas used to be one of my favorite players. But after he refused to shake Michael Jordan's hand or any of the Bulls hands after losing the 1991 Eastern Conference Finals, I lost respect for him. So did a lot of fans.

The next year Thomas, arguably the top point guard in the league at that time, was not picked for the USA Olympic Dream Team. Rumors had Thomas off the team because Jordan did not want him as a teammate due to Thomas walking off the floor with 7.9 seconds left on the clock in the final game without bothering to congratulate the winners in NBA time-honored custom.

Only time will tell if Dwight Howard develops the same animosity that Jordan felt toward Thomas. Probably not. Dwight is too nice. He's super, man.